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The People

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CONTRACTORS TO H.M. GOVERNMENT

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Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

A SERIES OF FIRES.

Immense Destruction at Boston.
Boston, November 28, Midnight.—According to the latest estimates, the damage caused by the fire which occurred here to-day is 4,000,000dols. It is calculated that the premises of about 900 commercial establishments were burned out, and that about 100 acres of New York and western firms had their headquarters destroyed. Seventy-nine insurance companies are interested to the extent of 2,600,000dols. on burned property. Two firemen are missing, and it is feared they lie buried beneath the ruins.
Boston, November 29.—The latest estimate of the damage done by the conflagration yesterday states the loss at 5,000,000dols. The principal scene of the fire was the block of buildings bounded by Kingston, Bedford, and Chancery streets, and here the fire spread furiously for seven hours, the destruction being complete. Granite buildings crumbled away and iron girders melted. A dozen firemen were injured by falling walls, but none fatally. Contrary to the report at first current, the Globe Theatre was not injured.

Other telegrams state that the fire began at about 8.15 in the morning in a large stone building at the corner of Kingston-street and Bedford-street. It was raining heavily at the time. By ten o'clock the fire had spread over four blocks and had destroyed twenty buildings. A general alarm brought fifty engines of Boston. Many came from Lynn, having just left the great fire there. By the afternoon about 100 engines were at work, and the fire was got under control. Several persons have been injured. Most of the buildings burnt were among the finest in the business section of the city. Several of them were supposed to be entirely fire-proof, but the flames destroyed them easily in consequence of the combustible character of their contents. The outbreak is said to have been caused by an electric wire. Some of the fire-engines had to be abandoned, and were crushed by the falling walls.

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR.

BANGALORE, November 29.—Prince Albert Victor this morning laid the foundation stone of the Maharajah College at Mysore, and afterwards left for Bangalore, where he arrived this evening. His royal highness was received with great enthusiasm. In honour of the prince, an official banquet was given in the evening followed by a ball.

THE GERMAN SOCIALIST TRIAL.

ELBERFELD, November 30.—At the opening of the proceedings in the Socialist trial, the president said that in view of the contradictory statements which one of the witnesses was proved yesterday to have made upon oath, he could not refrain from observing that the course of the trial had furnished many instances of a want of regard for the truth. He would probably have to make an official declaration on the subject, and the court, in the meantime, requested that no evidence would be accepted from witnesses who had previously been arraigned as prisoners.

SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF NINE LIVES.

NEW YORK, November 28.—The German barque Germania, from Bremen for New York, with empty oil barrels and rags, has become a wreck off Long Branch, the captain and eight of the sailors being drowned. The first mate and four men succeeded in reaching the shore on empty barrels.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S TOUR.

CAIRO, November 28.—Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P., accompanied by Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., arrived here to-day.

THE GERMAN SOCIALIST TRIAL.

ELBERFELD, November 28.—Great sensation was caused this morning on the re-assembling of the court engaged in the great Socialist trial by the non-appearance of the police spy, Weber, who was released from custody the day before yesterday, but was summoned to attend as a witness to-day.

THE REVOLUTION IN BRAZIL.

NEW YORK, November 30.—A telegram from Rio de Janeiro, via Galveston, states that the Brazilian Government have re-adopted the old flag, and this action has caused much irritation in Republican circles. It has been officially announced that Minister Barboza has convened a meeting of bankers with a view to the formation of a scheme to assist in the completion of certain commercial transactions when necessary.

THE MINISTRY.

Lord Salisbury, Mr. W. H. Smith, Mr. Stanhope, and Mr. Goschen met at the Foreign Office at half-past twelve o'clock on Friday afternoon, and were engaged for some time in consultation. The conference broke up shortly before two o'clock. There was afterwards held at the Foreign Office a meeting of the special committee of the Cabinet on Irish matters, which was attended by Lord Salisbury, Lord Ashbourne, Lord Cadogan, Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Mr. Smith, Mr. Goschen, and Mr. Balfour.

THE CHARGE OF EXTORTION AGAINST FINANCIAL JOURNALISTS.

In the Queen's Bench on Friday, before the Lord Chief Justice and Lord Justice Bowen, Sir Charles Russell applied, ex parte, on behalf of Messrs. Marks, Woolf, and Marx for a rule nisi for a certiorari to remove an indictment which was found against them at the Old Bailey to the High Court of Justice, on the ground that there was grave reason to doubt whether a fair trial could be obtained at the Old Bailey, owing to the prejudice existing against financial papers. He instanced the recent case of assault, in which the prisoner was discharged.—Their lordships granted a rule.

The bronze medal of the Royal Humane Society has been awarded to a young Jersey man named Edward Touzel, who has been instrumental in saving several lives. His last rescue was on August 18th last, when he saved the life of a visitor. He holds numerous local awards for gallantry, as well as a medal from the French Government.

THE MARYLEBONE TRAGEDY.

John Marsden, 32, proprietor of the Durweston Arms, Durweston-street, Marylebone, was brought before Mr. Cooke, at the Marylebone Police Court on Thursday, charged on remand with causing the death of James Marsh, aged 40, lately living at Bolsover-street, Portland-road, by shooting him with a revolver on November 20th. Mr. Freke Palmer, solicitor, appeared for the defence.—The evidence given last week having been read over by the clerk, Dr. James Morgan, the acting divisional surgeon, added that since the adjournment he had found the bullet in the body of the deceased.—The witness Butcher asked leave to contradict a statement which had been made about himself at the inquest. In his absence Detective-sergeant Record stated that he (the witness) was a well-known ticket snatcher, that he was a Welsher, and that he assaulted old men and women to rob them. He (the witness) desired to say that he had not been on a racecourse more than five times in his life.—Mr. Cooke said if that was so, he was quite right in having mentioned it, and no doubt the same publicity would be given to that as had been to the previous statement.—Mr. Palmer was about to cross-examine the witness when Inspector Gillies said he had to inform the magistrate that he did not propose to call any further evidence that day. Next week the Treasury would be present to prosecute.—Mr. Cooke then further remanded the accused.

Inquest and Verdict.

On Friday afternoon Dr. G. Danford Thomas, the coroner for the Central Division of London, resumed an inquiry at the Marylebone Coroner's Court into the circumstances attending the death of James William Marsh, aged 40, a betting man and ex-criminal clerk, lately living at 50, Bolsover-street, W., who was shot by John Marsden, keeper of the Durweston beerhouse, Little Durweston-street, Marylebone, on the evening of Wednesday, November 20th.—Mr. Freke Palmer, solicitor, appeared for John Marsden; Mr. Bernard Abrahams, solicitor, watched the case on behalf of the widow of the deceased.—The widow, further examined, stated that the deceased, four years ago, kept a public-house at Brentford. He had it about a year, and left it of his own free will. He had only one arm, the left one, and he was born so. Owing to his deformity he always had difficulty in obtaining employment.—The witness Crutchley, cross-examined by Mr. Abrahams, said he meant by "backing up" that Marsh was simply encouraging Butcher by words to "go for" Marsden. When Marsh was shot witness believed he was going in the direction of the accused. Witness did not see who threw the piece of wood at Marsden. He saw it in the air.—Dr. James Morgan, police divisional surgeon, stated that since the inquest opened he had found the bullet produced in the muscles at the back of the deceased's shoulder blade. The bullet had first struck his ribs and then ascended to the shoulder blade.—Inspector Gillies, D Division, in addition to his previous evidence, said two months ago he ejected Marsh from the Red Lion Tavern, Edgware-road, for an assault. The deceased was able to use his wooden arm with violent effect, and on the occasion in question he cut a man's mouth.—By Mr. Palmer: He had always known Marsden as a quiet, respectable little man.—Mr. Palmer stated that Marsh had absconded from the public-house he formerly kept, but this Mr. Abrahams emphatically denied.—Inspector Gillies added that a further search had resulted in no discovery of the trace of a bullet shot in the bar of the beerhouse.—John Russell, a painter, a new witness, said Beale called his attention to Butcher, who, he said, was "on the ramping game."—The jury, after a brief deliberation in private, returned a verdict of excusable homicide, which was received with applause in court.

A VIOLENT PRISONER.

At Marylebone Police Court on Friday, a middle-aged, sharp-looking man, named Charles Norman, a jeweller, was charged with being drunk and begging; also with damaging a tin mug belonging to the police.—The prisoner went to the shop of Messrs. Laws Brothers, jewellers, Edgware-road, and because the manager refused to give him help in response to a petition he presented, the prisoner threatened to ram his own head through the centre jewelry window. He became violent and abusive, and was given into custody. It was stated that after being put into the police cell the prisoner asked for some water, and when it was supplied him he threw the water away and stamped the can under his foot.—Mr. Bowen, the clerk, said a report had been made showing that the prisoner had been sentenced to four months' imprisonment in 1882 for fraud. He was also convicted in 1883, 1885, and 1888, and in the early part of the present year was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for similar offences. Since then there had been twelve summary convictions against him.—Mr. Cooke told the prisoner he was a violent man, and had been convicted a number of times for fraud.—The prisoner (interrupting): No, not fraud; it was false pretences. It was merely with obtaining a meal occasionally, and I have had to suffer severely for that. I only came out of prison in August last.—Mr. Cooke sentenced the prisoner to seven days' imprisonment for drunkenness, and one month for the wilful damage.

FREE DINNERS AND BREAKFASTS.

A deputation from the committee for providing free dinners and breakfasts for the poor School Board and other children of Southwark attended before Mr. Fenwick on Friday, at the Southwark Police Court, for the purpose of soliciting subscriptions in aid of the funds.—Mr. Berry said that last year the committee were enabled to provide 120,529 dinners and 20,522 breakfasts, all of which were given absolutely free to the schoolchildren of the neighbourhood, these children being unable to pay any sum, however small. Inquiries were made by the School Board officers, and all creeds were served alike. He was sorry to say that so far from decreasing the need was increasing.—Mr. Hunter, the secretary, said his worship would be surprised to hear that there were 6,000 children attending the Board Schools in Southwark daily who came each morning without breakfast, and of that number they were only able to feed 2,000 four days a week.—Mr. Fenwick said he had great pleasure in granting £20 from the poor-box.—Mr. Berry, in thanking his worship, said Mr. Slade came to one of the dinners, and after tasting the soup, said it was "very good indeed," and he hoped to have the pleasure of seeing his worship present.—Mr. Fenwick accepted the invitation, and the deputation then withdrew.

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR AT THE WEST-END.

At the West London Police Court on Friday, Martha Perry was charged with causing the death of a woman.—Inspector Morgan, of the X Division, informed the magistrate that there had not been any inquest in the case. Deceased was buried more than two months ago, but the case only came under his notice a few days since. There were extraordinary circumstances connected with the case. He wished to give an outline of the facts, and then ask for a remand.—Mr. Curtis Bennett said he would take evidence of the arrest only, and then grant a remand.—Inspector Morgan then stated that on Tuesday last he received information that Clara White was missing. He made inquiries, and on Thursday night he went to the prisoner's house in Aldine-street, Shepherd's Bush. He told her that he was an inspector of police, that he was making inquiries respecting a young lady who was missing from her home at Brixton, and that he had reason to believe that she had been stopping at her house, and that she died on the 16th of September. He also said that the person he was seeking for had passed by the name of Moore, and he wished to take her explanation down in writing. She then made a statement, which he took down in writing. He read the following statement: "I am a widow. I knew a woman named Moore. She stopped with me a week twelve months or more ago. She said her husband was a traveller. She did not say for what purpose. I don't know how she found me. She was not ill on that occasion. She came again on Saturday night, the 7th of September last. She looked ill, and said she had had a shake, falling off a tram-car, but was not hurt. She asked me for a room she had before, but it was engaged. I let her the top front room at 3s. a week. She said she only wanted a room for a fortnight. On the Wednesday following she became very poorly, and she was a cold. On Thursday I questioned her, and she told me she was in the family way. She appeared to have labour pains, and I sent for a doctor. She had not been out of the house since she took the room. No person had been to see her, nor had she sent any letters out. She died."

Nothing but Read.

She gradually got worse, and died on the 16th. I registered her death in the name of Moore. I did not know her Christian name. I asked her who and what she was, and where her friends were, but she did not tell me. I went to the coroner's office, and then to the parish officials, who buried her. I don't know where. Witness told her that he should take her into custody for causing the death of Clara Mabel White for performing an illegal operation for the purpose of procuring a miscarriage. She said, "Good God! I have done nothing of the kind; the doctor will prove that." The inspector further stated that he had the statement of the doctor, which would be strong evidence against the prisoner.—Justice Beatty, a of St. Michael's, Chester-square, was next with the case. She was indicted, charged with the murder of Clara Mabel White, on the 16th of September last. Dr. Morris sent her to the prisoner, who engaged her to attend upon Mrs. Moore, who had had a premature confinement. She went at eleven o'clock in the morning, and the deceased died at eight in the evening.—Mr. Curtis Bennett: Did she make any statement to you?—Witness: Nothing whatever. She seemed to will. Before she died the doctor asked her where her friends lived. She asked him not to worry her then, and promised to tell him in the morning. The prisoner seemed upset, and said it was a dreadful thing for a woman to die in that way, and not to know where her friends were.—The Prisoner: She must have died before the doctor left the house.—Emma White, a shirt and collar dresser, of Chrysalis-street, Brixton, identified the articles of wearing apparel left in the prisoner's house by the deceased as the property of her sister. She said the deceased left home between five and six o'clock on the evening of Saturday, September 15th. Dr. Morris said that the prisoner was a woman who was going to some friends at Shepherd's Bush for a week or a fortnight. She never returned. The deceased was a chorister in an English opera company in Ireland, but threw up the engagement. Witness had no suspicions when her sister went away. After five weeks witness made inquiries and communicated with the police.—Mr. Curtis Bennett then granted a remand.—The prisoner applied for bail, but on Inspector Morgan stating that he had reason to believe that she had been carrying on the illegal practice for some time, the magistrate refused to accede to the request.

THE ATHERTON MURDER.

Police-constable William Chadwick was charged at Leigh on Friday morning on suspicion of being the murderer of Walter Davis, a pawnbroker's son, at Atherton, on July 22nd. The greatest excitement was manifested in the town. The prisoner, who had been removed from Strangeways Gaol under a writ of habeas corpus, was placed in the dock in charge of two prison warders. He was not defended.—Evidence having been given, the prisoner was committed for trial.

THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR HER MAJESTY.

Mr. A. B. Brandreth, managing director of the Anglo-Continental Contract Association, Limited, writes, the Central News says, with regard to the offer to purchase an eighty years' lease of the site of Her Majesty's Theatre, that the French negotiators made a firm offer of £200,000 (the price asked) on November 21st. When, however, they met Mr. Tod Hestley later on the same day, that gentleman stated that a syndicate had been formed, and that the property could not be sold under £250,000.

AN IRRECLAIMABLE GIRL.

At Marlborough-street on Friday, Emily Patrick, a girl who has given much trouble to the police, and who neglected to appear on Thursday to answer an accusation of drunkenness, was brought up on Friday morning, charged with a repetition of the offence in West-street on Thursday night.—The officer in charge of the case over and over again, but to no effect. She only left prison on Wednesday morning, after being incarcerated for a month, following closely upon prior imprisonment of three months for drunken and disorderly conduct in the streets.—Brewer said that she had been sent to Miss Headlam's home, but they could not release her. When arrested on Thursday night she was seized with a fit, and had to be taken to the workhouse infirmary.—Mr. Newton remanded her for a week, saying that by that time the drink would be out of her.

An extraordinary electoral hot is reported from Lima, in Ohio. An undertaker stated "the finest coffin money can get, and the cost of an elaborate funeral" on the result. The bet is to be paid when the winner dies.

A FEVER HOSPITAL DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Exciting Scene.
A fire broke out on Friday morning at the St. William's Fever Hospital, Rochester, the joint property of the corporations of Rochester and Chatham. It is a large building of modern construction, capable of accommodating some 300 patients. At the present time there are about twenty-five in-patients, the whole of whom are suffering from infectious diseases, only a small proportion of the cases being convalescent. At about twenty minutes to ten on Friday morning some men employed near the hospital noticed smoke issuing from the facade of the buildings. They raised an alarm, and in a short time hundreds of persons, including the local doctors, hastened to the scene, and a band of workers transported beds in the laundry, whither the patients were speedily removed by the nurses. In the meantime, the flames had spread with great rapidity, but the timely arrival of the Rochester Fire Brigade, under Captain Levy, averted what would have been a still more serious disaster. The whole of the buildings are connected by covered passages, and it was only by dint of the greatest effort that the firemen succeeded in destroying one of these passages in time to prevent the flames extending to the only place of safety, the laundry. With the exception of the laundry, the whole hospital portion of the buildings is in ashes. The fire is said to have been caused by a defective flue.

HOSPITAL SUNDAY FUND.

A meeting of the council of this fund was held on Friday afternoon, at the Mansion House, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor.—The report stated that the collection of last year surpassed every former record by more than £1,100, the total amount collected being £41,744. The Rev. Prebendary Forrest, D.D., vicar of St. Jude's, South Kensington, again headed the list of contributions with £1,217, which was the largest sum ever received by the council from any one congregation. The Rev. Canon Fleming, R.B. of St. Michael's, Chester-square, was next with £1,007. A collection from members of the Stock Exchange produced £367, but the council regretted that the efforts to secure collections from other London exchanges were unsuccessful. The committee recommended the payment of awards to 161 institutions, which were three more than last year, and an increase of fifty-six since the first awards were made in 1873. The total amount for distribution, after allowing sufficient for liabilities and the usual current expenses was £24,746. Of this sum £283 was now recommended to 111 hospitals and 50 dispensaries. Five per cent. of the total collected—£2,087—was set apart to purchase surgical appliances. The working expenses were £1,478, as compared with £1,272 last year, and were 3.51 per cent. of the gross receipts.—The council recommended that the 8th of June be the date of the next Hospital Sunday.

THE JOYS OF INFANCY.

In the Queen's Bench Division on Friday, before the Lord Chief Justice and Lord Justice Bowen, the case of Valentine v. Canali came on for hearing. The plaintiff sued the defendant in regard to the sale to him of a restaurant business at Woolwich, alleging that he was an infant when the contract was entered into, and also alleging misrepresentation. The county court judge found that there was no misrepresentation, but that the plaintiff was an infant. He therefore declared the agreement void, and cancelled a promissory note given in reference to the balance of the purchase money. The plaintiff had, however, paid under the agreement £400, and £8 odd in the form of rent to the defendant, and this he claimed to recover on the ground of infancy. The county court judge decided against him on this point, and the present appeal was instituted.—Their lordships dismissed the appeal, holding that an infant could not recover money so paid. In the course of the discussion they pointed out that if a minor purchased something not a necessary—say, a cigar, and smoked it—he might, if he agreed with the contentment of the plaintiff's counsel, claim his money back again. (Laughter.)—Lord Justice Bowen remarked that the question was rather important. Christmas was coming on, and if counsel was right, children and young persons might go to Mr. Barrow's show, see the performance, and get their money back. (Laughter.)

DEATH OF MR. MARTIN TUPPER.

Mr. Martin Tupper passed away quietly at a quarter after two o'clock on Friday afternoon, at his residence, Norwood. He was born in London in 1819, and was the son of a London surgeon, descended from an ancient German family settled in Guernsey. He was educated at the Charter-house and at Christ Church, Oxford, where he took the degrees of B.A., M.A., and D.C.L. On leaving college he studied the law, and was called to the bar in 1835, though he never practised. Previous to this Mr. Tupper figured as an author, having in 1832 published some poems. These, however, attracted little attention. His principal work was "Proverbial Philosophy." The success of this book was extraordinary, it being reproduced in four series, some of which went through more than fifty editions.

A FATAL FIGHT.

William Donovan was charged at the Thames Police Court on Friday, on remand, with causing the death of Edward Arthur Careless, a labourer, lately living at Pearl-street, Spital-fields, by fighting with him in the street.—On November 10th, prisoner and deceased, who were acquainted with each other, were in the Ship and Dolphin public-house, New Gravel-lane, Shadwell, and in the course of a quarrel which ensued Donovan struck Donovan on the jaw. They went down Coleman-street, took their coats off, and fought. They struck each other, and both fell, Careless being underneath. His head struck the ground, cutting his forehead. The young man picked him up, when the prisoner rushed up and struck him between the eyes. He told the young man to release him and he would have another go, and on doing so he spurred up to the prisoner, but immediately called out, "I am blind." After bathing his head he was taken home, and he expired on the following morning. Since the prisoner has been under remand an inquest has been held, and a verdict of accidental death was returned.—Mr. Lushington discharged the prisoner.

A unique and interesting doll show will be opened at Charing Cross Hospital on December 7th. The dolls are all dressed by nurses in their leisure moments, and each set of three dolls will wear the uniform of one of the hospital, staff nurse, ward sister, or of some hospital. The show will be practically representative of the nursing uniforms of the kingdom.

THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND, DEAF, AND DUMB.

Deputation to Lord Cranbrook.
An influential deputation, representing various educational institutions throughout the country, waited upon Viscount Cranbrook (the President of the Council) on Friday afternoon, for the purpose of urging the Government to give effect to the recommendations of the royal commission on the education of the blind and the deaf and dumb. Lord Cranbrook, in reply, said that it would be necessary if the existing institutions were to receive grants that there should be a system of inspection to ensure proficiency. He felt strongly that it was his duty to take steps at once to bring to bear upon the subject such knowledge as he possessed in the framing of a bill, unless those deeply interested in the subject would submit what they required in that form. He would endeavour to have something drafted which could be placed before his colleagues with a view to seeing whether they could agree with him in dealing with the question, and thus bring it to a final issue.

EXTRAORDINARY DISCOVERY OF HUMAN REMAINS.

At a meeting of the Clerkenwell Vestry on Thursday night, the vestry clerk (Mr. Robert Paget) stated that while some men were making excavations in Roseman Mews, Clerkenwell, they found eighteen bodies in coffins. In one coffin was found a coin dated 1774. Inquiries have been made; but it could not be ascertained that the place was ever used as a burial-ground. He had been in communication with the Home Office, and had got an order for the reinterment of the bodies. The medical officer of health said that the bodies had not yet been reinterred, but were stored away in an empty house. They were waiting till the excavations had been completed to see whether any further remains were found, so if there were any the whole could be buried at the same time. It was agreed to refer the matter to the Sanitary Committee.

LADY DUNLO'S PERFORMANCES.

The motion in the action of Hart v. Lady Dunlop, for an injunction to restrain Lady Dunlop and Mrs. Florence Seymour (the Sisters Bilton) from performing at the Manchester Theatre or the Nottingham Theatre, in breach of an agreement with the plaintiff to play at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, of which he is the lessee, was resumed on Friday morning, on adjournment from Tuesday last, before Mr. Justice Chitty. When the case was resumed, Mr. Justice Chitty, for the defendants, had laid before the court the agreement that there was not a breach of the agreement with the plaintiff, because, when Lady Dunlop entered into it, she understood that she and her sister were to have principal parts in the plaintiff's Christmas production, whereas she afterwards ascertained that they were not, or that only one of them was to have such a part. In proof of this, copies of agreements were put in, that had been sent to the ladies' agent, Mr. Didcot, in which alterations appeared to have been made.—The case was resumed at this point on Friday, and the documents were exhibited to the learned judge. The ladies made an affidavit stating that they did not sign any document with alterations on it, and that they did not authorise any one to make alterations.—Mr. Justice Chitty said he would dispose of this point first, and called on Mr. Romer to argue it for the plaintiff.—Mr. Romer said that the agreement corresponded that the altered terms included matinees in the 42nd week.—Mr. Justice Chitty, referring to one of the documents, said he did not find the matinees initialed, and there were other alterations also that were not initialed.—Mr. Romer submitted that there was a binding contract, Mr. Hart, after receiving the document with the alterations initialed, having sent back a stamped agreement containing all the alterations that were made. The ladies, however, contended that the agreement before they looked at the contract.—His lordship declined to grant the injunction, holding that on the affidavits Mr. Didcot did not appear to have had the authority of the ladies to make some of the alterations in the agreement.

THE ELDERLY GENTLEMAN'S WATCH.

Mary M'Hughes, a young woman from Albany-street, was charged at Westminster Police Court on Friday with being unlawfully in the possession of a gold watch, the property of a gentleman unknown.—Percy Downing, a commissioner, said that about half past twelve on Thursday morning he saw a gentleman, who was somewhat in liquor, enter a hansom outside the St. James's Restaurant. The prisoner got on the step, but he pushed her away, saying that he did not want her with him. She, however, managed to get inside and took a seat by his side, and told the driver to take them to Albany-street. In the morning the gentleman came back and complained to him (Downing) of having been robbed of his watch and chain, and thrown out of the hansom into the street, but he did not say where. In the afternoon the prisoner appeared, and then witness told her what the gentleman had said, and asked her for her name and address. She replied, "I have come here to see him." On telling her that she would have to go with him (his witness) to the police station she demurred, but on his threatening to call in a constable she consented, and they walked together to Vine-street.—Inspector Elliott, C Division, said that about three o'clock on Thursday afternoon he saw the commissioner and the woman, and Downing wanted to give her in charge for having stolen the watch. She said, "He can't do that with me. I went to St. James's Restaurant on Wednesday evening, and met there an elderly gentleman, who was drunk, and he gave me his watch to take care of for him. I don't know his name or where he lives." She then produced a gold watch from her bosom, saying that she knew nothing about the chain, and the commissioner then related the same story as he had given in evidence. The police had been made aware of the case after the gentleman and told that he had been staying at a hotel in King's Cross, but had gone away for a day or two.—Mr. Newton ordered the inspector to detain the watch, and the prisoner to be liberated on producing a surety in 50s. for her re-appearance in a week.

"ASK A POLICEMAN."

In the action of Fawn v. Francis Brothers, Mr. Justice North, in the Chancery Division, granted an injunction, on a motion of the plaintiff against the defendants, the well-known music publishers, restraining them from authorising or permitting the song, "Ask a Policeman," to be sung at theatres and music halls.

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THE FIRM OF GIRDLESTONE.

A ROMANCE OF THE UNROMANTIC.

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

AUTHOR OF "MICHAEL CLARKE," "A STUDY IN SCARLET," ETC.

CHAPTER XI.

SENIOR AND JUNIOR.

Although not a whisper had been heard of it in ordinary commercial circles, there was some foundation for the forecast which Von Baumser had made as to the fate of the firm of Girdlestone. For some time back matters had been going badly with the African traders. If the shrewd eyes of Major Tobias Clutterbuck were unable to detect any indications of this state of affairs in the manner or conversation of the junior partner, the reason simply was that that gentleman was entirely ignorant of the imminent danger which hung over his head. As far as he knew, the concern was as prosperous and as flourishing as it had been at the time of the death of John Harston. The momentous secret was locked in the breast of his grim old father, who bore it about with him as the Spartan lad did the fox—without a quiver or groan to indicate the care which was gnawing at his heart. Placed face to face with ruin, Girdlestone fought against it desperately, and, withal, coolly and warily, throwing away no chance and leaving no stone unturned. Above all, he exerted himself—and exerted himself successfully—to prevent any rumour of the critical position of the firm from leaking out in the City. He knew well that should that occur nothing could save him. As the wounded buffalo is gored to death by the herd, so the crippled man of business may give up all hope when once his position is known by his fellows. At present, although Von Baumser and a few other such Ishmaelites might have an inkling from sources of their own as to how matters stood, the name of Girdlestone was still regarded by business men as the very synonym for commercial integrity and stability. If anything, there seemed to be more business in Fenchurch-street and more luxury at the residence at Becliff-square in former days. Only the stern-faced and silent senior partner knew how thin the veneer was which shone so deceptively upon the surface.

Many things had contributed towards this state of affairs. The firm had been involved in a succession of misfortunes, some known to the world, and others known to no one save the elder Girdlestone. The former had been accepted with such perfect stoicism and cheerfulness that they rather increased than diminished the reputation of the concern. The latter were the more crushing, and also the more difficult to bear.

Lines of fine vessels from Liverpool and from Hamburg were running to the West Coast of Africa, and competition had cut down freightage to the lowest possible point. Where the Girdlestones had once held almost a monopoly there were now many in the field. Again, the negroes of the coast were becoming educated, and had a keen eye to business, so that the old profits were no longer obtainable. The days had gone by when flint-lock guns and Manchester prints could be weighed in the balance against ivory and gold-dust.

While these general causes were at work a special misfortune had befallen the house of Girdlestone. Finding that their fleet of old sailing vessels were too slow and clumsy to compete with more modern ships, they had bought two first-rate steamers. One was the Providence, a fine screw vessel of twelve hundred tons, and the other was the Evening Star, somewhat smaller in size, but both classed A1 at Lloyd's. The former cost twenty-two thousand pounds, and the latter seventeen thousand. Now, Mr. Girdlestone had always had a weakness for petty savings, and in this instance he determined not to insure his new vessels. If the crazy old tubs, for which he had paid fancy premiums for so many years, had been pelted to an ultimate profit, met with no disaster, surely those new powerful clippers were safe. With their tonnage and horse-power they appeared to him to be superior to all the dangers of the deep. It chanced, however, by that strange luck which would almost make one believe that matters nautical were at the mercy of some particularly malignant demon, that as the Evening Star was steaming up Channel in a dense fog on her return from her second voyage, she ran into the Providence, which had started on her very morning from Liverpool upon her third outward trip. The Providence was almost cut in two, and sank within five minutes, taking down the captain and six of the crew, while the Evening Star was so much damaged about the bows that she put into Falmouth in a sinking condition. That day's work cost the African firm more than five-and-thirty thousand pounds.

Other mishaps had occurred to weaken the firm, apart from their trade with the coast. The senior partner had engaged in speculation without the knowledge of his son, and the result had been disastrous. One of the Cornish tin mines in which he had sunk a large amount of money, and which had hitherto yielded him a handsome return, became suddenly exhausted, and the shares were down to zero. No firm could stand against such a run of bad luck, and the African trading company reeled before it. John Girdlestone had not said a word yet of all this to his son. As claims arose he settled them in the best manner he could, and postponed the inevitable day when he should have to give a true account of their financial position. He hoped against hope that the chapter of accidents or the arrival of some brilliant cargoes from the coast might set the concern on its legs again.

From day to day he had been expecting news of one of his vessels sailing in the morning. He tore it open, for it bore the Madeira mark. It was from his agent, José Alveiras, and announced that the voyage from which he had hoped so much had been a total failure. The cargo was hardly sufficient to defray the working expenses. As the merchant read it, his head drooped over the table and he groaned aloud. Another of the props which upheld him from ruin had snapped beneath him.

There were three letters lying beside the telegram. He glanced through them, but there was no consolation in any of them. One was from a bank manager, informing him that his account was somewhat overdrawn. Another from Lloyd's Insurance Agency, pointing out that the policies on two of his vessels would lapse unless paid within a certain date. The clouds were gathering very darkly over the African firm, yet the old man bore up against misfortune with dauntless courage. He sat alone in his little room, with his head sunk upon his breast, and his thatched eyebrows drawn down over his keen grey eyes. It was clear to him that the time had come when he must enlighten his son as to the true state of their affairs. With his co-operation he might carry out a plan which had been maturing for some months in his brain.

It was a hard task for the proud and austere merchant to be compelled to confess to his son that he had speculated without his knowledge in the capital of the company, and that a large part of that capital had disappeared. These speculations in many instances had promised large returns, and John Girdlestone had withdrawn money from safer concerns, and re-invested it in the hope of getting a higher rate of interest. He had done this with his eyes open to the risk, and knowing that his son was of too practical and cautious a nature to embark in such commercial gambling, he had never consulted him upon the point, nor had he made any entry of the money so invested in the accounts of the firm. Hence, Ezra was entirely ignorant of the danger which hung over them, and his father saw that, in order to secure his energetic assistance in the stroke which he was contemplating, it was absolutely

necessary that he should know how critical their position was.

The old man had hardly come to this conclusion when he heard the sharp footfall of his son in the outer office and the harsh tones of his voice as he addressed the clerks. A moment or two later the green baize door flew open, and the young man came in, throwing his hat and coat down on one of the chairs. It was evident that something had ruffled his temper.

"Good morning," he said brusquely, nodding his head at his father.

"Good morning, Ezra," the merchant answered meekly.

"What's the matter with you, father?" his son asked, looking at him keenly. "You don't look yourself, and haven't for some time back."

"Business worries, my boy, business worries," John Girdlestone answered, wearily.

"It's the infernal atmosphere of this place," Ezra said, impatiently. "I feel it myself sometimes. I wonder you don't start a little country house somewhere ground enough to ask a fellow to shoot over, and with a good billiard board, and every convenience of that sort. It would do for us to spend the time from Saturday to Monday, and allow us to get some fresh air into our lungs. There are plenty of men who can't afford it half as well, and yet have something of the sort. What's the use of having a good balance at your bankers if you don't live better than your neighbours?"

"There is one objection to that," the merchant said huskily, and with a forced laugh. "I have not got a good balance at the bankers'."

"Pretty fair, pretty fair," his son said, knowingly, picking up the long thin volume in which the finances of the firm was recorded, and tapping it against the table.

"But the figures there are not quite correct, Ezra," his father said, still more huskily. "We have not got nearly so much as that."

"What!" roared the junior partner.

"Hush! For God's sake don't let the clerks hear you! We have not so much as that. We have very little. In fact, Ezra, we have next to nothing in the bank. It is all gone."

For a moment the young man stood motionless, glaring at his father. The expression of incredulity which had appeared on his features faded away before the earnestness of the other, and was replaced by a look of such malignant passion that it contorted his whole face. "You fool!" he shrieked, springing forward with the book upraised as though he would have struck the old merchant. "I see it now. You have been speculating on your own hook, you cursed ass! What have you done with it?" He seized his father by the collar and shook him furiously in his wrath.

"Keep your hands off me!" the senior partner cried, wrenching himself free from his son's grasp.

"I did my best with the money. How dare you address me so?"

"Did your best!" hissed Ezra, hurling the ledger down on the table with a crash. "What did you mean by speculating without my knowledge, and telling me at the same time that I knew all that was done? Hadn't I warned you a thousand times of the danger of it? You are not to be trusted with money."

"Remember, Ezra," his father said with dignity, re-sitting himself in the chair from which he had risen in order to free himself from his son's clutches, "if I lost the money, I also made it. This was a flourishing concern before you were born. If the worst comes to the worst you are only where I started. But we are far from being absolutely ruined as yet."

"To think of it!" Ezra cried, flinging himself upon the office sofa, and burying his face in his hands. "To think of all I have said of our money and our resources! What will Clutterbuck and the fellows at the club say? How can I alter the ways of life that I have learned? Then, suddenly, clenching his hands, and turning upon his father he broke out, "We must have it back, father; we must, by fair means or foul. You must do it, for it was you who lost it. What can we do? How long have we to do it? Is this known in the City? Oh, I shall be ashamed to show my face on 'Change.'" So he rambled on, half-maddened by the pictures of the future which rose up in his mind.

"Be calm, Ezra, be calm!" his father said imploringly. "We have many chances yet if we only make the best of them. There is no use lamenting the past. I freely confess that I was wrong in using this money without your knowledge, but I did it from the best of motives. We must put our heads together now to retrieve our losses, and there are many ways in which that may be done. I want your clear common sense to help me in the matter."

"Pity you didn't apply to that before," Ezra said sulkily.

"I have suffered for not doing so," the old man answered meekly. "In considering how to rally under this grievous affliction which has come upon us, we must remember that our credit is a great resource, and one on which we have never drawn. That gives us a broad margin to help us while we are carrying out our plans for the future."

"What will our credit be worth when this matter leaks out?"

"But it can't leak out. No one suspects it for a moment. They might imagine that we are suffering from some temporary depression of trade, but no one could possibly know the truth. For heaven's sake, don't you let it out!"

His son broke into an impatient oath. A flash came into Girdlestone's sallow cheeks, and his eyes sparkled angrily.

"Be careful how you speak, Ezra. There are limits to what I will endure from you, though I make every allowance for your feelings at this sudden catastrophe, for which I acknowledge myself responsible."

The young man shrugged his shoulders, and drummed his heel against the ground impatiently.

"I have more than one plan in my head," the merchant said, "by which our affairs may be re-established on their old footing. If we can once get sufficient money to satisfy our present creditors, and to tide over this run of bad luck, the current will set in the other way, and all will go well. And, first of all, there is one question, my boy, which I should like to ask you. What do you think of John Harston's daughter?"

"She's right enough," the young man answered brusquely.

"She's a good girl, Ezra—a thoroughly good girl, and a rich girl too, though her money is a small thing in my eyes compared to her virtue."

Young Girdlestone sneered. "Of course," he said, impatiently. "Well, go on—what about her?"

"Just this, Ezra, that there is no girl in the world whom I should like better to receive as my daughter-in-law. Ah! you rogue, you, could come round her; you know you could. The old man poked his long bony finger in the direction of his son's ribs with grim playfulness.

"On, that's the idea, is it?" remarked the junior partner, with a very unpleasant smile. "She has fifty thousand pounds, which would be more than enough to save the firm. At the same time you would gain a charming wife."

"Yes, there are a good many girls about who might make charming wives," his son remarked dubiously; "and some of them have more money, perhaps. I don't care much about saddling myself with a wife yet. Bachelor life suits me down to the ground, and though I'd take care to be master in my own house, still it's not pleasant to have folk sitting up for you and looking after you too closely. No matrimony for me yet awhile."

"But it is absolutely necessary," his father urged.

"A very fine necessity," Ezra broke in, savagely. "I am to be myself up for life and you are to use all the money in rectifying your blunders. It's a very pretty division of labour, is that?"

"The business is yours as well as mine. It is your interest to invest the money in it, for it

falls you are as completely ruined as I should be.

Ezra stroked his dark moustache complacently, and took a momentary glance at his own bold handsome features in the mirror above the fireplace. "If we are reduced to such an expedient, I think I can answer for the result," he said.

"The girl's not a bad-looking one. I can hardly believe sometimes that she's the same slip of a thing that we took in when John Harston died. But you said you had several plans. Let us hear some of the other ones. If the worst comes to the worst I might consent to that—on condition, of course, that I should have the whole management of the money."

"Quite so—quite so," his father said hurriedly. "That's a dear, good lad. As you say, when all other things fail we can always fall back upon that. At present I intend to raise as much money as I can upon our credit, and invest it in such a manner as to bring in a large and immediate profit."

"And how do you intend to do this?" his son asked doubtfully.

"I intend," said John Girdlestone, solemnly rising up and leaning his elbow against the mantelpiece, "I intend to make a corner in diamonds."

CHAPTER XII.

A CORNER IN DIAMONDS.

John Girdlestone propounded his intention with such dignity and emphasis that he evidently expected the announcement to come as a surprise upon his son. If so, he was not disappointed, for the young man stared open-eyed.

"A corner in diamonds!" he repeated. "How will you do that?"

"You know what a corner is," his father explained. "If you buy up all the cotton, say, or sugar in the market, so as to have the whole of it in your own hands, and to be able to put your own price on it in selling it again—that is called making a corner in sugar or cotton. I intend to make a corner in diamonds."

"Of course, I know what a corner is," Ezra said impatiently. "But how on earth are you going to buy all the diamonds in?" You would want the capital of a Rothschild?"

"Not so much as you think, my boy, for there are not any great amounts of diamonds in the market at any one time. The yield of the South African fields regulates the price. I have had this idea in my head for some time, and have studied the details. Of course, I should not attempt to buy in all the diamonds that are in the market. A small portion of them would yield profit enough to float the firm of again."

"But if you have only a part of the supply in your hands, how are you to regulate the market value? You must come down to the prices at which other holders are selling."

"Ha! ha! Very good! very good!" the old merchant said, shaking his head good-humouredly. "But you don't quite see my plan yet. You have not altogether grasped it. Allow me to explain it to you."

His son lay back upon the sofa with a look of resignation upon his face. Girdlestone continued to stand upon the hearthrug and spoke very slowly and deliberately, as though giving vent to thoughts which had been long and carefully considered.

"You see, Ezra," he said, "diamonds, being a commodity of great value, of which there is never a large stock in the market at any one time, are extremely sensitive to all sorts of influences. The value of them varies greatly from time to time. A very little thing serves to depreciate their price, and an equally small thing will send it up again."

Ezra Girdlestone granted to show that he followed his father's remarks.

"I did some business in diamonds myself when I was a younger man, and so I had an opportunity of observing their fluctuations in the market. Now, there is one thing which invariably depreciates the price of diamonds. That is the rumour of fresh discoveries of mines in other parts of the world. The instant such a thing gets wind, the value of the stones goes down wonderfully. The discovery of diamonds in Central India not long ago had that effect very markedly, and they have never recovered their value since. Do you follow me?"

An expression of interest had come over Ezra's face, and he nodded to show that he was listening.

"Now suppose," continued the senior partner, with a smile on his thin lips, "that such a report got about. Suppose, too, that we were at this time, when the market was in a depressed condition, to invest several thousand pounds in them. If these rumours of an alleged discovery turned out to be entirely unfounded, of course the value of the stones would go up, and we should be up one more, and we might very well sell out for double or treble the sum that we invested. Don't you see the sequence of events?"

"There seems to me to be rather too much of the supposition in it," remarked Ezra. "How do we know that such rumours will get about; and if they do, how do we know that they will prove to be unfounded?"

"How are we to know?" the merchant cried, wringing his long lank body with amusement. "Why, my lad, if I spread the rumours ourselves we shall have pretty good reason to believe that they are unfounded. Eh, Ezra? Ha! ha! You see there are some brains in the old man yet."

Ezra looked at his father in considerable surprise and some admiration. "Why, damn it," he said, "it's a dishonest scheme. I'm not sure that it's not actionable."

"Dishonest! Pooh!" The merchant snapped his fingers. "It's finance, my boy, commercial finance. Who's to trace it, I should like to know. I haven't worked out all the details—I want your co-operation over that—but here's a rough sketch of my plan. We send a man we can depend upon to some distant part of the world, Chimborazo, for example, or the Ural Mountains. It doesn't matter where, as long as it is out of the way. On arriving at this place our agent starts a report that he has discovered a diamond mine. We should give him the length, if he considers it necessary, of hiding a few rough stones in the earth, which he can dig up to give colour to his story. Of course the local press would be full of this. He might present one of the diamonds to the editor of the nearest paper. In course of time a pretty coloured description of the new diamond fields would find its way to London and thence to the Cape. I'll answer for it that the immediate effect is a great drop in the price of stones. We should have a second agent at the Cape—diamond fields, and he would lay our money out by buying in all that he could while the panic lasted. Then, the original scare having proved to be all a mistake, the prices naturally go up once more, and we get a long figure for all that we hold. That's what I mean by 'making a corner in diamonds.' There is no room in it for any misapprehension. It is as certain as a proposition of Euclid, and as easily worked out."

"It sounds very nice," his son remarked, thoughtfully. "I'm not so sure about its working, though."

"It must work well. As far as human calculation can go there is no possibility of failure. Besides, my boy, never lose sight of the fact that we shall be speculating with other people's money. We ourselves have nothing to lose, absolutely nothing."

"I am not likely to lose sight of it," said Ezra angrily, his mind coming back to his grievance.

"I reckon that we can raise from forty to fifty thousand pounds without much difficulty. My name is, as you know, as good as that of any firm in the City. For nearly forty years it has been above stain or suspicion. If we carry on our plans at once, and lay this money out judiciously, all may come right."

"It's Hobson's choice," the young man remarked. "We must try some bold stroke of the kind. Have you chosen the right sort of men for agents? You should have men of some standing to see the reports going. They would have more weight than we."

John Girdlestone shook his head despondently.

"How am I to get a man of any standing to do such a job of business?" he said.

"Nothing easier," answered Ezra with a cynical laugh. "I could pick out a score of impetuous fellows from the clubs who would be only too glad to earn a hundred or two in any way you can mention. All their talk about honour and so forth is very pretty and edifying, but it's not meant for every day use. Of course, we should have to pay him."

"Them, you mean?"

"No, we should only want one man."

"How about our purchaser at the diamond fields?"

"You don't mean to say," Ezra said roughly, "that you would be so absurd as to trust any man with our money. Why, I wouldn't let the Archbishop of Canterbury out of my sight with forty thousand pounds of mine. No, I shall go myself to the diamond fields—that is, if I can trust you here alone."

"That is unkind, Ezra," said his father. "You are a little unkind to me. I should have proposed it myself but for the discomforts and hardships of such a journey."

"There's no use doing things by halves," the young man remarked. "As to our other agent, I have the very man, Major Tobias Clutterbuck. He is a shrewd, clever fellow, and he's always hard up. Last week he wanted to borrow a tenner from me. The job would be a godsend to him, and his social rank would be a great help to our plan. I'll answer for his jumping at the idea."

"I will," said the old merchant, "that you and I have had this conversation, Ezra. The fact of my having speculated without your knowledge, and deceived you by a false ledger, has often weighed heavily upon my conscience, I assure you. It is a relief to me to have told you all."

"Drop the subject then," Ezra said, curtly. "I must put up with it, for I have no redress. The thing is done, and nothing can undo it, but I consider that you have wilfully wasted the money."

"Believe me, I have tried to act for the best. The good name of our firm is everything to me. I have spent my whole life in building it up, and if the day should come when it must go, I trust that I may have gone myself. There is nothing which I would not do to preserve it."

"I see they want our premiums," Ezra said, glancing at the open letter upon the table. "Let it be that none of those ships go down? That would give us help."

"Hush! hush!" John Girdlestone cried, imploringly. "Speak in a whisper when you talk of such things."

"I can't understand you," said Ezra, petulantly. "You persistently over-insure your ships, year after year. Look at the Leopard; it is put at more than twice what she was worth as new. And the Black Eagle, I dare say, is about the same. Yet you never have an accident with them, while your two new uninsured clippers run each other down."

"Well, what more can I do?" replied the merchant. "They are thoroughly rotten. I have done nothing for them for years. Sooner or later they must go. I cannot do any more."

"I'd make 'em go down quick enough," muttered Ezra with an oath. "Why don't you make old Migs bore a hole in them, or put a light to a barrel of paraffin. Bless your soul, the thing's done every day. What's the use of being mink-water about it?"

"No, no, Ezra," cried his father. "Not that, not that. It's one thing letting matters take their course, and it is another thing giving positive orders to scuttle a ship. Besides, it would put us in Migs' power. It would be too dangerous."

"Please yourself," said Ezra with a sneer. "You've got us into the mess and you must take us out again. If the worst comes to the worst I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll marry Kate Harston, wash my hands of the firm, leave you to settle matters with the creditors, and retire with the forty thousand pounds," with which threat the junior partner took up his hat and swaggered out of the office.

After his departure John Girdlestone spent an hour in anxious thought, arranging the details of the scheme which he had just submitted to his son. As he sat his eye chanced to fall upon the two letters lying on his desk, and it struck him that they had better be attended to. It did not suit his plans to fall back upon his credit just yet. He had been already shown that he was a man of ready resources. He rang the bell and summoned his senior clerk.

"Good morning, John," he said affably.

"Good morning, Mr. Girdlestone, good morning," said wizened little John Gilray, rubbing his thin yellow hands together, as a sign of his gratification.

"I hear, John, that you have come into a legacy lately," Mr. Girdlestone said.

"Yes, sir. Fifteen hundred pounds, sir. Less legacy duty, incidental expenses, fourteen hundred and twenty-eight six and fourpence. My wife's brother Andrew left it, sir, and a very handsome legacy too."

John Girdlestone smiled with the indulgent smile of one to whom such a sum was absolutely nothing.

"What have you done with the money then John?" he asked carelessly.

"Banked it, sir, at the United Metropolitan."

"In the United Metropolitan, John? Let me see. Their present rate of interest is four and a half?"

"Four, sir," said John.

"Four! Dear me, John, that is poor interest, very poor indeed. It is most fortunate that I made these inquiries. I was on the point of drawing fourteen hundred pounds from one of my correspondents as a temporary convenience. For this I should pay him five per cent. I have no objection, John, as you have an old servant of the firm, to give you the preference in this matter. I cannot take more than fourteen hundred—but I shall be happy to accommodate you up to that sum at the rate named."

John Gilray was overwhelmed by this thoughtful and considerate act. "It is really too generous and kind, sir," he said. "I don't know how to thank you."

"Don't mention it, John," the senior partner said grandly. "The firm is always glad to advance the interests of its servants in any reasonable manner. Have you your cheque-book with you? I'll fill it up for fourteen hundred. No more, John, I cannot oblige you by taking any more."

The head clerk having made out his cheque for the amount, and having signed his name to it in a cramped little quaint handwriting, which reminded one of his person, was duly presented with a receipt and dismissed to his counting-house. There he entertained the other clerks by a glowing description of the magnanimity of his employer, John Girdlestone, took some sheets of blue official paper from a drawer, and his quill pen travelled furiously over them with many a screech and splutter.

"Sir," he said to the bank manager, "I enclose fourteen hundred pounds, which represents the loose cash about the office. I shall make a heavy deposit presently. In the meantime, you will, of course, honour anything that may be presented."

"Yours truly, JOHN GIRDLESTONE."

Enclosed you will find cheque for £241 7s. 6d., being amount due as premium on the Leopard, Black Eagle, and Maid of Athens. Should have forwarded cheque before, but with so many things of importance to look after these trifles are liable to be overlooked."

These two epistles having been sealed, addressed, and despatched, the elder Girdlestone began to feel somewhat more easy in his mind, and to devote himself once more to the innocent amusement of planning how a corner might best be created in diamonds.

(To be continued.)

A news agency learns that the statement of defence has been delivered in the libel action brought by Mr. Oakley Hall against Professor Bryce, M.P. The defence is justification, privilege, and fair comment. Sir C. Russell has been retained for the defence.

A LONDON WORKHOUSE SCANDAL.

Mr. E. W. Baxter, coroner for East Middlesex, resumed his inquiry at the Stepney Union Workhouse on Wednesday respecting the death of William Amos Atkins, aged 70, a Custom House officer, lately residing at Cable-street, Shadwell, and who died in the above workhouse on November 15th. The evidence of the widow of the deceased showed that for some time past he had been suffering from softening of the brain, and about a month ago he was so strange she could not manage him. She therefore applied to the relieving officer to get him into an asylum. The relieving officer sent an officer to see the deceased, and the following day told witness to take him in a cab to the Poplar lunatic ward. He was there left in charge of one of the officials. Witness visited her husband three times while he was in the ward, and on November 15th he told her he should like to go home. When she went to visit the deceased on November 11th she was told he was not there, and had been removed to the Stepney Workhouse. The following day she called on the relieving officer and told him she did not wish her husband to be detained in the workhouse, and that official told her he would make inquiries into the matter. The following day she received a letter from the workhouse authorities saying her husband was dead. In answer to questions, witness said she only wanted her husband to be looked after because his mind was affected, and did not want him kept in the workhouse after he got well. She was not informed that her husband had been sent to the Stepney Workhouse.

The Medical Evidence.

Dr. T. Bowkett said he was medical officer of Poplar Workhouse. He examined the deceased on the day of his admission. He was in a feeble health and extremely imbecile. Witness was unable to make him understand anything. He was able to stand, but with difficulty. Witness was present when the magistrate said he would make the order to detain deceased in the workhouse and not send him to an asylum, as he was a harmless lunatic. The witness said the deceased was on the day he was admitted, he saw him on the day he was admitted, and witness ordered the ward he was standing up, and witness made him sit down. He was then almost in the same mental condition as he was in when he was admitted. The Coroner: Was your attention drawn to the fact that the fourteen days were about to expire? I believe so. I advised the master that he might be taken out of the lunatic ward, and would be better in the workhouse. The Coroner: My dear sir, so might you or I; but you are going to send him to the workhouse to advise the master. The latter expressed his intention of sending deceased to the Stepney Workhouse, and I assented. The Coroner: But the deceased is not a pauper? I have nothing to do with whether the persons are paupers or not. The Coroner: Do you think he was in a fit condition to be removed from Poplar to Stepney? At the time I saw him I thought so. Continuing, the witness said he thought it would be better to send the deceased to the workhouse than to the sick asylum. He was surprised to hear he was unconscious when he was received. A juror said he did not believe deceased was fit to be removed. The deceased's friends did not know where he had been taken to. The whole matter was a mystery. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, but added they were of opinion that the death was accelerated by his removal from Poplar Workhouse to Stepney, and that they were of opinion that the officials of the Poplar Workhouse were to blame for sending the deceased to Stepney.

Australian mail news reports a terrible fatality at Wentworth. Mr. Richard Gurney, being about to leave home for some time, took his wife and seven children for a picnic near the Yelta Mission Station in a boat. On rowing close to a high bank a large quantity of earth gave way and the boat was hurled overboard. Six of the children, including a baby, were drowned. The eldest girl, aged 14, was saved by clinging to a pillow. Mr. Gurney was taken to the hospital with his back broken, and the mother has gone out of her mind.

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OUR OMNIBUS. THE M.P.

How keen are the nostrils of your Radical politician for any scandal which seems to affect the aristocracy, and how eagerly they sniff up its unseemly fumes! But they pass by with supreme indifference any nasty revelations connected with the democracy. If, for instance, a peer figures in the Divorce Court as co-respondent it is instantly bawled from the house-tops that all British peers are ruthless libertines. But should Brown, Jones, or Robinson have to answer for trespassing on the matrimonial prerogative, our censor of morals takes no notice of the affair. There is no more detectable form of cant, to my mind, than this hypocritical affectation of immaculate purity by men who have broken the Seventh Commandment full many a time and oft.

I know of one such who took away another man's wife and openly lived with her, to the scandal of society. Yet this gentleman gives forth the highest-toned morality whenever some foolish young lordling strays outside the sweet paths of virtue. Then it is a wholly wrong for either aristocrat or democrat, for lord or lout, to allow passion to overrule morality is a truism. But I altogether dispute the justice of saddling the one with a judgment for conduct which, in the other's case, is treated as a triviality.

These remarks may appear somewhat outside my proper province, but that is not the case. Certain members of Parliament are, I regret to say, among the leading exponents of the doctrine that morality only concerns the aristocracy. Of course they know just as well as I do that human nature is the same in one grade of society as in another. But it being their purpose to ingratiate themselves with the many, they gibbet the few as the only vicious people who need to be denounced. And all for what? Merely to catch a few votes among the foolish and the ignorant.

Now that Sir Wilfrid Lawson openly proclaims his conversion to Republicanism, he will, of course, drop the habit of his ill-considered, and even more ill-considered, of having just produced it to his honoured patronymy. I should have written "Mr. Wilfrid Lawson," or, better still, "Wilfrid Lawson, citizen." A Republican baronet would be too absurd a hybrid to pass muster even among add-headed Radicals. As a humourist of a sort, Citizen Lawson must see that, and I make no doubt, therefore, that his public renunciation of the "Sir" will shortly be announced. The odd thing is that he did not get it off his chest before confessing his new departure in politics.

There is one highly creditable feature in Mr. John Burns' political crusade which enlists my sympathy for him, Socialist though he be. He stands clear of both political parties, and sternly refuses the sweet reasonableness of entering the Gladstonian fold, as so many of the other working class leaders have. Not that he is a Conservative, but believing that one party is as friendly as the other to the sons of toil, he declines to applaud the Outs and to condemn the Ins or vice versa. I make no doubt that Mr. Burns would make a very good M.P. if elected. Mr. Bradlaugh, since he got into the House, has toned down wonderfully, and is now held in respect by many who formerly loathed his very name.

Rumour says that Lord Rosebery is more prodigal of words than of hard cash in his support of the Home Rule cause. His speeches are excellent, say his detractors, "but he is a dear too careful of the law." I doubt whether this imputation be just. If my information be correct, the Rosebery boards have been put under heavy contribution to help in subsidising the Home Rule press, especially in London. One paper alone is said to have cost him several thousand pounds before it was strong enough to run alone.

Why should London, the centre of wealth, intelligence, and enterprise, be proportionately less represented in the House of Commons than any other area in these isles with an equal number of inhabitants? I have never heard any satisfactory answer to that question. The usual explanation is that Mr. Gladstone, who has never had much liking for the metropolis, sternly set his face against its adequate representation when the details of the Redistribution Bill were under discussion, and that Lord Salisbury had to give way. Whatever may have been the origin of the anomaly, it is certainly a genuine grievance, and Londoners are fobbed off with fewer representatives in Parliament than their numbers, let alone their other advantages, entitle them to.

OLD IZAAK.

I have been continually asking myself lately, "Is there any good reason why netting in the Thames should not be done more extensively with entirely? The longer I argue the matter out with myself, the more fully I become convinced the time has arrived when the licensed netmen of Strand-on-the-Green, Brentford, Chiswick, Putney, Wandsworth, and Lambeth should devote their time to waiting on anglers, or find some other mode of getting a living. It is notorious that for several years past, owing in all probability to the improved state of the water, roach, dace, and chub fish have been taken angling as low down the river as Millbank, and also at Charing Cross Pier. At the same time, from some unknown cause, boulders have decreased to an enormous extent, in spite of the well-intentioned efforts of Mr. T. Sprickley, the late much respected treasurer of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, who gave a great deal of time, and spent a considerable amount of money in endeavouring to improve the flounder fishery for the benefit of the netmen. At the present time the number of boulders in the river is so small that a netman can find no more than a few fish, and a netman living as licensed netmen does not exceed twenty, and nearly all of these have to follow some other occupation so as to eke out a living.

In London and its vicinity there are considerably over 60,000 anglers. Now, out of this immense number 75 per cent. fish in the Thames, very many of whom are quite unable to pay the few pence required for a railway journey, and owing to the heavy toll taken by the nets at certain seasons in those reaches of the river from Islington to Putney, where netting is allowed, it is almost useless to attempt rod and line fishing with anything like a fair prospect of success. Consequently, many poor overworked fellows, who are keen anglers, are deterred the chance of enjoying innocent recreation with the likelihood of adding wholesome food to their too often scantily provided tables, and for what reason? Simply because twenty men are licensed to destroy one of the few pleasures of many weary toilers of our huge metropolis. Do away with the nets, and there is no reason why fly-fishing for dace should not be successfully attempted in such places as the gravel shoals in front of Battersea Park; also good roach, bream, and chub fishing be had off the Bishop's Grounds at Fulham.

The monthly meeting of the committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society was held last Tuesday at the London office of that body. There were present—Mr. A. Nuttall (chairman), Mr. M. H. Baines (deputy-chairman), Messrs. Marriott, Wright, Dayport, Chubb, Lemann, Evans, Newsome, and W. H. Hougham (secretary). After the usual routine business, the important questions of raising the size of certain fish and altering the fence months for jack and perch were fully discussed. The replies of several societies to the circular sent out last April having been considered, it was decided to ask the Conservancy Board to make new by-laws, increasing the standard size of jack, chub, barbel, bream, carp, and tench; to prohibit jack and perch fishing from March to July 31st (both days inclusive); to prohibit the use of live-roach tackle and trawling in jack fishing. The size of jack is to be increased from 10lb. to 21lb., barbel from 13lb. to 16lb., chub,

bream, and carp from 10lb. to 12lb., and tench from 8lb. to 10lb. All those anglers and professional fishermen who have the interest of our Thames fishery at heart, will rejoice should these really necessary and important measures become law.

The result of the competition held at Twickenham, which terminated on the 24th November, for the two handsome prizes given by Mr. A. Hollidge, of the Two Sawyers, was as follows:—Mr. M. H. Blamey won the first prize, value £25 5s., with a take of 13lb. 11oz. of roach and dace, amongst the former being two fish of 1lb. 3oz. and 1lb. respectively; Mr. Bridges won second prize, value £25 5s., with a take of 12lb. 11oz., including one carp 2lb. 8oz., the remainder being roach and dace; Mr. H. C. Bryant was a good third, with 12lb. 5oz. roach and dace. There were thirty-eight competitors, but twenty of them failed to weigh in, their takes being too small to have any chance with others previously registered. It was rather singular that the two prize winners should both have been waited on by the same professional, Dick Coker, a worthy successor of the many generations of famous fishermen of that name who have resided at this well-known angling resort.

The rainfall in the valley of the Thames during the last few days, especially last Sunday night, has greatly improved the colour of the water, which, owing to the continuance of dry weather, had become too bright. The immediate result has been an improvement in jack, chub, and roach fishing. J. Keene, jun., with Mr. Morris, at Staines, took jack weighing 23lb.; another day, with Mr. E. Pander, five jack and four chub; and another day, with Mr. J. Newbury, four jack and three chub. Mr. W. Millbourne, of Hampton, has been showing his patrons good sport amongst the roach. John Smith took three jack, best 4lb. Mr. Bush, of Hampton Court, nine chub, the best 5lb. Anglers out in the punts of Messrs. Clarke and Stroud, of Sunbury, have taken a few nice jack, the largest up to 6lb. and 7lb. each.

PIPER PAN.

There is much merit in the new "comedy-opera," entitled "The Red Hussar," produced on Nov. 23rd at the Lyric Theatre, but I am surprised to find some surprising errors in Mr. H. Pottinger Stephens' otherwise clever libretto. On the first page of the book of words, "trouble" is written as a rhyme to "noble," and this is not to be admitted, even as a poetical license. In fact, the words will not rhyme unless the first is mispronounced "nubble," or the second "dear." The line, "Than all thou art most dear," is ungrammatical, equivalent to "Thou art most dear than all." The line, "My love must be a soldier, loving me still the same," is un-English as Bunns' famous line in "The Bohemian Girl," wherein Arline has to tell Thaddeus, "I also dreamt" (instead of "dreamed") "that you loved me still the same."

Sir Middlesex Mashem's song, in which he declares that he "is a veritable hero," ready "to storm or sack a town, or burn it, like a hero," reminds me of an assembly of footballers at Trafalgar-square. The chief speaker was a well-known Democrat, who afterwards obtained a seat in Parliament, and showed his independence by omitting his "s." After describing the annoyances inflicted upon him by his fellow-workmen, who were more or less given to draughts of beer, he said, pointing to Nelson's statue, "Talk of 'eroes! I'm a hero greater than 'im'!"

The Wagner Society has favoured me with a ticket for their next concert, but "once bit, twice shy." The Wagnerites will, doubtless, enjoy an evening spent in mutual admiration of themselves and idolatrous worship of Wagner, many of whose works I admire; but as I have not yet caught the Wagner fever, and the ticket is transferable, I sent it to a friend who has always professed himself a thorough Wagnerite. He has returned the ticket, and writes me, "Many thanks, but I have had one dose of Wagner Society conversation, and don't wish for another."

At the sixth Crystal Palace concert, Liszt's "symphonic poem," entitled "Festklinge," was added to the Crystal Palace repertory. I remember hearing it when first produced in London at one of Walter Bache's concerts, and thought then, as now, that it is a pretentious, and wearisome, attempt to produce those original orchestral effects which Liszt never succeeded in realising. It is solely on his pianoforte compositions that his chance of permanent fame depends.

By the way, I have often seen Walter Bache described as Liszt's pupil. Bache was a frequent visitor at my house, and told me that Liszt gave him no lessons, but permitted him to hear the great pianist's daily practice, and sometimes to be present when he gave lessons.

Sir Charles Hallé's first orchestral concert at St. James's Hall, though excellent in its way, was not well attended. His second concert, on Friday next, will be conducted on the same principles, namely, with plenty of orchestral but no vocal music. I think this is unwise. Two or three vocal solos would agreeably diversify the programme.

Messrs. Ricordi and Co., Verdi's publishers, request me to make known that Signor Verdi desires, through the medium of the English press, to express his gratitude for the numerous congratulations received from England on the completion of his fiftieth year as a composer, and greatly regrets that it is out of his power to send his acknowledgments direct to his English correspondents.

Signor Tamagno has declared it to be his intention to retire from the operatic stage next year, and enjoy in quiet the beautiful estate which represents part of his large fortune. Most Italian singers are thrifty; some penurious. Rubini carried thrift to downright stinginess, and one night caught a small riot at Her Majesty's Opera by refusing to repeat the aria "L'addio" from "Lucia di Lammermoor." A great personage sent one of his suite to request Rubini to comply with the public wish, but the singing bird had flown, fearing that if he were to repeat the scene he might lose the last Drompton bus, and have to pay 2s. for a cab.

Musical critics are terribly bothered by the friends of debutants and debutantes. I have a large acquaintance among foreign artists and teachers, and during the summer season am inundated with letters of recommendation of vocalists, pianists, &c., all anxious to give me a taste of their qualities. English teachers wish to "personally conduct" their pupils to my wigwam, and some of those teachers I know to be incompetent humbugs. A few years back I attended an operatic performance in which a debut was made by a young lady whose voice had been strained by judicious forcing, who sang scales badly, &c., but was loudly applauded by her supporters, amongst whom I observed Mr. B—, a second-rate flute player.

On my way to the newspaper office I noticed that I was followed by someone whom I could not, in the darkness, recognise. At last I stopped and asked him who he was, and why he stopped my steps. He replied, "You know my name. I am B—, the flute player. I suppose you are going to review the opera, and I wish you to know that Miss — (the prima donna) has been taught solely by me." Very well," I responded, "have no fear. Be assured that so far as I am concerned no one shall ever know that," and I left him cogitating over my reply.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

I am requested to state that all replies to questions connected with my department will appear for the future in the general correspondence columns, under the heading "Natural History." This change is made in order to facilitate refer-

ence, and will, I feel assured, be appreciated by my correspondents.

Much indebted am I to a City correspondent for a pathetic story of how two mice came to a bad end through either curiosity or greediness. They dwelt at a well-known City restaurant, and, no doubt, fared right well, as mice always do at those places. But seeing an oyster stand invitingly open, they must needs poke their heads between the shells, which instantly closed, holding the trespassers fast. And there they were found by one of the assistants some time afterwards, nor did the remorseless oyster let go its hold for thirty-six hours, when, of course, both mice were dead. My correspondent vouches for the authenticity of this anecdote, and offers to produce witnesses should his word be questioned. The huge claims which are found in the South Pacific are said to have sufficient strength to hold a man imprisoned by the leg or arm.

Constant Reader's wonderfully prolific canary has its rival for the present year eclipsed by a still more fertile bird, belonging to a gentleman at Westbourne Park. This amazing canary has already laid forty-four eggs in seven rounds, and is building again, so that she may possibly complete the half century before New Year's Day. Out of the aggregate hatchlings the owner managed to rear twenty-nine birds, and as the father was a thoroughbred Norwich, the monetary results must have been considerable.

All who take pleasure in natural history, whether experts or dabbles, should visit Olympia. Not only is the collection of wild animals quite out of the common, but their superb condition reflects the greatest credit on Mr. Barnum's keepers. The lions and tigers are particularly fine specimens, comparing very favourably with those usually exhibited in travelling menageries. Among the many performing animals is a bear, which, for preternatural knowings, beats every educated Bruin that I have ever seen. It is a real artist, and seems to get through its stunts with genuine relief. And there is also an elephant, an also exceptionally clever and well trained, never making the slightest mistake from beginning to end. The only disappointing item in this part of the show is the snake maiden. The serpents are a mediocre lot compared with some that I have seen.

All lovers of the horse will hope that the experiments now being carried on in Germany with paper horsehooves will be attended by success. The chief advantage claimed for these novel contrivances is that the roughness with which the hooves become smooth, as iron shoes do. They are also said to be more durable and to be unaffected by water, two considerations of some importance from a commercial point of view. It is, however, the alleged roughening of the surface that most catches my favour. If this claim be made out, neither wood pavement nor asphalt will any longer have much terror for the London horse, even when slippery. It is the polished under surface of the iron shoe that does the mischief; when roughened it holds well enough.

Mr. Gregory was told the following particularly dubious story by the captain of an Asia Minor steamer. A cargo of pigs was being discharged, when one of them fell down a hatchway. He could not be found when looked for, and after a time was forgotten. About four months afterwards the stokers, while working in the coal-bunkers, were alarmed at seeing something moving under the coals. They soon dug out the pig, who had actually grown fat and strong, and had become a capital pig. The captain said, "This is one of the strangest. Still, it is very kind of my correspondent to send this and other anecdotes, afterwards to be given, all the way from Port Said."

Can any of my readers inform Mr. W. Sharp of a case similar to the following:—A cock pigeon took to a hen, which he afterwards left, taking to another instead. Two eggs were laid, by which of the hens is not known. All three birds took to sitting, and hatched both the eggs. One of the young birds died since, and now the two hens and the male bird feed the remaining young one, which, my correspondent says, is getting on well, as it ought to do under the circumstances.

Mr. Matthews narrates a combat which he witnessed in India between a cobra and a mongoose. The mongoose stood on its hind legs, waving its head in a manner somewhat similar to the cobra. After some time it saw a chance and sprang at the snake, inflicting a wound under the head severe enough to disable it. The cobra was then finished off completely and the mongoose returned to its hole, of course, scatheless. I wonder if anyone has ever seen the mongoose killed in one of these duels.

The same gentleman describes the manner in which the kite, a great enemy to serpent life, sets about its work. It soars round and round the snake until it observes a favourable opportunity, when it descends, striking rapidly, seizes its prey with its talons, ascends to a considerable height and lets the poor snake fall to the earth, coming down again and repeating the operation until the reptile is quite dead.

Here is an interesting little story connected with the late dockers' strike. A half-bred Chinese pug dog, known by the name of "Jack," has taken up his abode with one of the men employed in the docks, at Grays, Essex. He is extremely intelligent, and every morning leaves his dwelling-place, and before going down to the docks examines the sky to see what the weather is going to be like. If he thinks it will be wet he trots off to the station and goes down by train; if it looks fine he accompanies the first person going his way by the road; doing the same on his return at night. But during the whole time of the strike he resolutely refused to go on the premises, and would not be enticed there by those with whom he was familiar.

THE ACTOR.

Saturday night is now the favourite night for first productions, and probably the theatrical managers wish sometimes that there were more than one Saturday in each week, so coveted are "The Red Hussar" and "Pink Dominoes," as they are called, and many first nighters must have found it difficult to get up their minds with the function to go to. I, by a judicious utilisation of the "wait" at the Lyric, managed to see a good deal of what was going on at the Comedy, and I saw that each theatre had a fair share of well-known faces in the stalls and boxes.

Those with musical tastes or tendencies naturally went to the Lyric, where Mr. D'Oyly Carte, Mr. and Mrs. George Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Sedger, Miss Hope Temple, and Signor Randegger were giving samples of the general company. The occasion was a notable one in the stage career of Miss Marie Tempest, for, as the Red Hussar, she had to appear for the first time in lights, always a trying ordeal. There was a unanimous opinion, I found, that the costume was very becoming to the wearer, who is fortunate in her dresses throughout the opera.

Everybody who cares for the theatre will be glad that the George Edwards benefit on Tuesday was so successful pecuniarily. There must have been much energy and liberality to secure so large a sum as £1,100. A handsome part of that amount was obtained by the efforts of the well-known performers, male and female, who sold programmes to the audience. It is very good, of course, of young actresses to take the trouble to do this sort of thing, but they would better consider their dignity as artists if they retained from doing it at all.

Miss Henrietta Lindley, who gives a matinee of "The Colonel" at the Crystal Palace next Tuesday, was the original representative in the provinces of the rôle of Blith, the spirit-like widow with whom the colonel pairs off in the end. Miss Lindley was one

of the company which played the piece before the Queen in Scotland, and is, I doubt not, properly proud of the fact, which is really a distinction. Her Majesty has seen few theatrical performances since the death of the Prince Consort. Miss Lindley used, as a girl, to play at the Haymarket in the days of Buckstone, Compton, and the rest.

I have been much interested in the memoir of the author of "Caste," which has been prefaced by his son, T. W. Robertson, jun., to the new collection of the dramatist's principal productions. Some account is given therein of the progenitors of Tom Robertson. His mother was a lady of Dutch extraction, named Marins, and she is said to have been an excellent actress. His father was an actor and manager, as so many of the family had been. Tate Wilkinson, in his "Memoirs," mentions James Robertson, grandfather of Tom, as a comedian of true merit. He saw him in York in 1795.

Mr. T. W. Robertson, jun., referring to those brothers and sisters of the author of "Caste" who "rose to fame," mentions, of course, Mrs. Kendal, and also Miss Fanny Robertson (now at the Comedy), Miss Elizabeth Brunton, and Mr. Craven Robertson, the two latter being long associated with the country "Caste" companies. These, however, are by no means all, for there was the Miss Robertson who married Mr. Charles Dorton, the actor, and died some years ago, and there is Miss Georgina Robertson (Mrs. Foulis)—both of them very competent performers.

It is interesting, in the plays here printed, to note the fullness and clearness of Robertson's stage directions. Every bit of "business," the position of all the furniture, is laboriously marked—even the "picture" to be formed by the actors in "Caste" when the curtain rises in response to a "call." The action of the play was slightly advanced, and with admirable effect, a plan which might be advantageously adopted wherever possible. Robertson was, if anything, a greater stage-manager than dramatist, and Mr. Gilbert confesses to having learned much from him.

Messrs. J. T. Green and C. W. Jarvis put forward this week, in *Westly Comedy*, a plea for an English Theatre Libre, on the model, in the main, of the Parisian institution, but with the proviso that the "free theatre" should not be too "free" in its delineations of life and character. Everything, of course, would depend upon the management, and could we be sure that the limits of good taste and propriety would never be overpassed in any of the plays produced, one might be glad for dramatists to secure a hearing for plays less commonplace and conventional than most of those which are put before us at the licensed playhouses.

GENERAL CHATTER.

The design of the famous American flag is being shamelessly pirated in all directions. Not only has the new Brazilian Republic done so, but a certain London evening paper shows a strong disposition to become a copyist. Our readers will understand what we mean when we remind them that the stripes attend the stars in Brother Jonathan's gay banner.

Mr. Barker, the Kensington linen-draper, appears to have had his sagacious head turned by his election to the County Council. He has actually issued invitations to people of position in the neighbourhood—even to some who do not deal at his shop—asking for the pleasure of their company at an evening dancing party to celebrate the opening of his new premises. What next, I wonder? We shall, I suppose, have every pushing shopkeeper starting Cinderellas for the promotion of his business.

A very interesting point of law came to the front in the case of Kelly v. O'Malley. It is whether a newspaper is privileged, when reporting a public meeting, to print any running comments of the audience on the speeches. Mr. Lockwood, no mean authority, seems to hold that privilege includes everything said or done on these occasions, but Baron Huddleston takes the contrary view, on the broad ground that such an extension of journalistic privilege would throw open the door to unlimited libel and defamation. A good deal might be said on both sides, but there can be no doubt that Baron Huddleston's interpretation of the law best fits in with the public welfare. It would be no bad thing, indeed, were this judicial decision to influence editors to expunge from reports of speeches every interruption, whether hostile or friendly. The introduction of this extraneous matter often gives an entirely false colouring to the proceedings.

When Mr. Bradlaugh gets among his native worshippers in India, he will no doubt, have a high opinion of his own patriotism. He has a high opinion for his reception, nor should he be surprised were the Hindoo "reformers" to give him a niche in their glorious pantheon of 330,000,000 of gods. The peculiar configuration of the lower part of his intellectual countenance would lend it to treatment as a reduced copy of Gumputti. But, however lavish may be the hospitality he receives, it will not prevent him, I feel assured, from plainly telling his baboo friends that no cause can get on without the sinews of war. It appears that these effeminate patriots have actually in an English gentleman, who sympathises with them, to the tune of 10,000 rupees, the deficit on last year's National Congress.

It is awful to think that the great world of finance might have been shaken to its very centre by the collapse of an insignificant wooden bridge in Silesia. Baron Nathaniel de Rothschild was very nearly killed last week when riding over a paltry viaduct at Schillersdorf, by its giving way and precipitating him and his gottin into the ravine it spanned. The curious thing is that the bridge was on his own estate. It would appear, therefore, that millionaires are as liable as American railway directors to starve expenditure on permanent ways.

Whatever may be the merits or demerits of the electric light for urban use, it is a perfect godsend to the Suez Canal. By using it steamers can pass through in twenty-two and a half hours, instead of needing thirty-eight hours as was the case before its introduction. It is soothed to British ears to learn that the percentage of English ships using the great ditch continues to increase. Roughly speaking, a fraction more than three-quarters of the entire traffic is conveyed in British bottoms. It shows how short-sighted is even the highest statesmanship that Lord Palmerston zealously fought against the construction of the canal, in the belief that it would hand over England's ocean-borne commerce from the East to the foreigner.

Some person, either very malicious or sublimely stupid, has spread the ridiculous story that it takes half an hour to clear the amphitheatre at Barnum's wonderful show. What is the truth? The other night I timed the operation when every seat was filled, and within nine minutes the whole area was absolutely cleared. As a matter of fact, there is far less crushing than at some theatres, nor is there any difficulty whatever in gaining exit.

If all the bills for new metropolitan railways of which notice has been given pass Parliament, the future Londoner will have plenty of routes to travel by. But what a pleasant condition some of our leading thoroughfares will be in during the construction of these gigantic burrows. It makes one shiver to think of the grand artery between Shepherd's Bush and Tottenham Court-road while undergoing the process. Still, if the public convenience would be promoted, this temporary embarrassment must be endured.

Having doubts as to whether wood or asphalt makes the more slipshod pavement during wet weather, I have consulted several bus drivers and cabmen on the question. Their unanimous verdict

is that they find much more difficulty in keeping their horses on their legs on asphalt than on wood. But they groan at both, and almost seem to long for a macadam revival.

MR. WHEELER.

The sad death of the Rev. G. Hedges and its attendant circumstances will convey to the circulating public some notion of what sort of a creature the "road hog" is. As in this case, so in others, it is his habit to drive off at top speed, leaving the victim of his diabolical malevolence to die or live, as the event may prove. If wheelmen were only to put in print their experiences of this detestable creature, public opinion would no longer jump to the conclusion that cyclists are always to blame for collisions. It may be assumed, for one thing that the trap which ran into Mr. Hedges did not carry a light; otherwise he would have jumped off, if he could not escape the juggernaut in any other way. It is a monstrous thing that the fiendish road hog should be thus permitted by the law to conceal his deadly approach from his intended quarry; in no other civilised land are such facilities provided for would-be homicides.

A gentleman who was wheeling up from the west country last Sunday and Monday was on an account of his awful experiences on the road. It is a deeply pathetic narrative; one has to resort to the history of Mr. Stanley's sufferings in Africa to find a parallel. But if cyclists will go on tour during November they must expect considerable discomfort and fatigue. Some two or three years ago I made the experiment, and the result was a rheumatic attack which lasted for some weeks.

Another correspondent addresses me on the eternal "practical cyclist" question, holding that the cyclist deserves the name who cannot take a machine to pieces and put it together again without a single mistake. Let it be so; anything is better than everlasting argumentation. All the same, I remain of opinion that a "practical cyclist" is one who cycles, even as a practical cricketer is one who crickets, or a practical hunting man one who hunts.

Club "smokers" have come very much into evidence in the world of wheels, and very enjoyable they are, on the ground of good taste, and the occasional introduction of questionable songs. Sometimes they are of the sort which so grossly shocked dear old Colonel Newcombe on a memorable occasion; in other cases, their humour is tinged with the profanity which our Yankee cousins relish so much. Where does the fun come in? That is precisely what I can never see, and I feel assured that a good many other listeners are of the same opinion. I hold that the repertoire should be always as carefully expurgated as on legal nights. By the way, the Gainsborough Club held a most successful feminine "smoker" last Tuesday, at which I should certainly have been an attendant but for a prior engagement.

Among the many attractions at "the greatest show on earth" is a remarkably clever trick cyclist, who takes off the hind wheel of his ordinary and so progresses as a monocyclist. A little elephant also performs on wheels with much adroitness. What a splendid trick might be made around the wheel of a bicycle! The worst are so rounded that even the most expert rider could negotiate them, while room could easily be made for a dozen two-wheelers abreast. Olympia would make a superb headquarters for our beloved sport, but, unhappily, the price might be a little more than would be forthcoming.

Very few of my cycling friends cotton to the idea of a grand central club either at Olympia or elsewhere. The large majority strongly incline to decentralisation, arguing that a man gets more enjoyment out of a little club in his own locality than he would out of a Broadland institution some miles distant. But there is no reason why the C.T.C. and the N.C.U. should not amalgamate and formulate their decrees with united voice from under the same roof. We want an authoritative body of that sort to bring pressure to bear upon recalcitrant local authorities and to defend cycling interests whenever attacked.

A gifted gentleman, whose name I suppress for fear of shocking his modesty, writes me that he is putting the finishing touches to a design for a new tricycle which he predicts will be creation for speed and comfort. Unfortunately, I have had confided to me, during the last two years, quite a score of similar inventions, but not one has ever got beyond the "coming" stage. Nor do I see where there is room for a new model; the present one may be open to improvement in some details, but I doubt whether it will ever be superseded by a brand new conception.

The G. O. M. of politics has had endless testimonials presented to him, why should not cyclist testimonials testify admiration and reverence for their own G. O. M., Major Knox Holmes? He has done and is doing immense good to cycling by affording proof positive that the exercise is compatible with threescore years and fifteen. Were the project started by the right sort of people, I feel assured that thousands of wheelmen would willingly subscribe their mites. For myself, I never see the gallant veteran whirling along the road without feeling a sense of pride that he bears the name of a splendid specimen of a Briton among its most ardent votaries.

All those in whom wisdom dwells will closely overhaul their machines to see whether the late damp weather has set up any appearance of rust. If that has happened, never despair from the application of elbow grease until the corrosion is obliterated. And then on with the glycerine again, taking pains to cover every bit of the surface. A little attention in every now and then during the winter months saves an immensity of toil in the spring.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT GREENWICH.
A disastrous fire raged at East Greenwich in the early hours of Thursday morning, and resulted in the destruction of Messrs. Greig and Company's large corn mill, situated by the waterside. Engines from all parts of South London were sent to work, but the flames were not suppressed until past seven o'clock, three hours after their first appearance. An official report states that a building of eight floors (about 70 feet by 45 feet) was a corn mill, has been burnt out, and the roof off.

A FEMALE BURGLAR.

At Woolwich Police Court, Mary Edith Ward, aged 22, a well-dressed, diminutive woman, was charged before Mr. Kennedy, after several remands, with burglariously entering 119, Crescent-road, Plumstead, and 31, Maxey-road, Plumstead, and stealing various articles of wearing apparel, a small sum in money, and other property.—Detective-arguant Day stated that he received a description of the stolen goods, and seeing the prisoner in the street wearing a waterproof cloak which corresponded with one which was missing, he stopped her, and finding her statement unsatisfactory, he took her into custody. Other details of the lost property was then traced to her, and a cloak which she left behind her in one of the houses was identified as hers. She had been at least twice previously convicted of felony, and at the present time she was wanted for similar offences in other parts of London. She had been in three homes for women, and many benevolent persons had taken an interest in her case and given her opportunities of reforming; but in the last instance of this kind she went straight from her home to steal a quantity of jewellery. The accused made no defence, and asked the magistrate to deal with the case.—Mr. Kennedy committed her to hard labour for four months, and marked the charge-sheet with his approval of the fact and vigilance displayed by Sergeant Day.

TO THE DEAR.—Nicholson's Patent Artificial Ear Drums cure Deafness and Noise in the Head at all stages. Eighteen years' experience. Full particulars on request. Dr. Nicholson, 31, Bedford-square, London, W.C. (Adv.)

THE THEATRES.

EMPIRE.
Max Adeler, in his "Out of the Hurly Burly," relates an amusing anecdote of an unfortunate individual who was sat upon by a giantess of immense weight, and whose form, when released, was to be passed under closed doors without removing the buttons from his clothes. This, no doubt, is the idea for his burlesque of the entertainment now being given by the "strong men." He has produced a skit that will no doubt be popular on the variety stage long after the craze it ridicules has died out, and which takes off their doings from the flaccid at the Aquarium to the present feats accomplished by Sandow. The persons represented are Samson and Sandow, played by the Brothers Griffiths, who claim to be "the strongest men in the Empire," and who, after a little preliminary hat-throwing, commence by having tremendous property weights brought upon the stage with apparent effort by the attendants. Various extraordinary feats of strength are then attempted by one of the brothers—whom we will call Samson—whose success prompts him to issue a challenge to give or "owe one hundred pounds" to any one accomplishing his tricks. This is accepted by the other brother—Sandow—who rises from the stalls and proceeds to the stage, where the rivalry to out-do each other has some humorous results. Sandow succeeds in raising his rival from the ground by grasping his feet, a trick which is executed so well as to appear quite genuine, but which afterwards is found to be accomplished by the aid of unseen help. After this Sandow is persuaded to bear an impossible weight resting on his shoulders and knees, and collapses when a last straw, a real one, is added, to be dragged out as flat as a pancake. It is a genuinely comic sketch, and is well interpreted by the Brothers Griffiths.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL.
It is, perhaps, at this time of the year, especially when tempered with such weather as we have experienced during the past week, that the residents around the district in which Mr. Richard Wake's thriving resort is situated recognise and appreciate what has been accomplished by that enterprising manager on their behalf. In the entertainments produced weekly, under the supervision of Mr. Francis, care is taken to secure variety and originality. The current programme is, we notice, without the familiar "sketch," its place presumably being taken by an aquatic performance contrived by Mr. James Finney and his clever sister, Miss Marie Finney, who, it will be remembered, dived from London Bridge a short time ago. This is a capital exhibition, the feats executed in a large crystal tank being very interesting. Miss Minnie Mario, who has been a country melody, dancing, or lamenting over the wane of the Kerry dance, is comparatively a new comer, but has been well received. The negro philosophy of Mr. Samuel Redfern is also enjoyed here, his song on the topics of the day finding favour with the audience, who seem to coincide with his views on the temperance question. Messrs. Franklin and Matthews co-operate well in a novel musical act, into which they introduce some lively pantomime; and Mr. T. and Miss English give some effective musical selections on various instruments. The comic gymnastics of Messrs. Bezzano and Robin elicit hearty laughter; whilst many other entertaining methods are adopted by Miss G. Mainstone, Mr. D. Leeson, Sisters Cavendish, D. Le Roy, C. Ostend, D. Hughes, Bob and Jenny Leonard, and others.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones is to deliver a lecture at the Lambeth Polytechnic on Sunday afternoon—the day of the present issue of the "People"—entitled "The Drama in Blue and White," in which he will advocate free trade in entertainments as between music halls and theatres. The epistolary contention upon his most question in the press between the gentlemen and Mrs. A. W. Pinner still continues. Mr. Wilson Harcourt, who just appeared for the first time in America in "The Silver King," at a New York theatre, and with his brother, Mr. George Barrett, and Miss Eastlake, secured the greatest success they have yet had in the States. Miss Mary Anderson has just passed through Paris, en route for the Riviera, where, at Nice, this popular actress proposes to spend the winter. The "Andrea" of Florence, is the comedy selected for the Westminster play this year. Mr. Meinke's farcical comedy, entitled "Deceit," having been invested with the ribbon of an order of knighthood, is in course of adaptation by Mr. James Davis for production at the Comedy by Mr. Charles Hawley. The Solicitor-General, Sir Edward Clarke, will preside at the complimentary farewell banquet to be given to Mr. J. L. Toole, on the 12th of February, at the Metropolitan Hotel, prior to the departure of this stage favourite upon his Australian tour. For the tickets, at two guineas each, application for 250 have already been made. An amusing story of the genial comedian is to the effect that on his stating in a general company of comedians that the trousers worn by him as the Artful Dodger had been in use for over forty years, a canny Scot at the table leapt to his feet with the eager inquiry, "Eh, mon, and who's your tailor?" "Dretina Green" is the suggestive title of a new musical comedy, composed by Dr. Storor to a libretto written by Mr. Murray Ford, to be acted at a matinee on Wednesday, December 4th, with Mr. Richard Temple and Miss Leonora Abraham sustaining the chief characters. Players are impatient to see Mr. Penley and Miss Lottie Venn in the new comic duo, written for them by Mr. Neville Doone. Mr. Penley is still on the look-out for a theatre, in which he may commence management with the new farcical comedy, written for him by Mr. Arthur Law. Mr. Pinner's new piece, to follow "Aunt Jack" at the Court, is not, as supposed, of an extravagantly humorous kind, like "The Plagiator," but a pure comedy, which, none the less, contains a large amount of "our flat," Mr. J. S. Pawcett, has written the comedy, "Our Flat," in which Miss Louise Latton, of "America," makes her debut in London, as a singer and actress of the Opera Comique, early in December. Mr. Willard having, it is understood, finally settled to cross the Atlantic with "The Middleman" next autumn, he and his present partner, Mr. Lart, will, at the close of the summer season of 1890, relinquish their tenancy of the Shaftesbury Theatre to Miss Wadde, who will then resume the management with new plays by Mr. W. G. Wells and Mr. Robert Buchanan. The latest rumour regarding the play with which Mr. Langtry intends to inaugurate her management of the St. James's is that it is a new piece, written especially for her by Mr. C. Haddon Chambers, the author of "Captain Swift."

APOLLO MUSICAL SOCIETY.
This society gave the first ladies' concert of the season in the great hall of Winchester House on Wednesday, before a large audience. The club of City singers comprising more than one hundred societies to foster that love of part singing so dear to our Welsh brethren and our German neighbours. Acting upon precedent, the Apollo found room for some well-known glee in their programme, including Beale's "What! No! Shepherd" and Bishop's "Heart and Mind," concluding appropriately with Webb's "Glorious Apollo." Besides these, well-known artists sang mostly present day ballads, with the duetto, "Una Notte a Venezia" (Luccanton), by Madame Isabella George and Mr. E. Houghton, "A Bedouin Love Song," by Mr. E. Evans, and other songs by Miss Daisy Henderson and Mr. W. F. Rice, and pianoforte solos by Mr. S. Mantell, Mr. T. Wilford Price, who is a singer as well as a pianist, is to be congratulated upon the success of an excellent programme.

A prisoner at Madison, in Florida, who was under sentence of death, escaped with several others from the local goal by filing through "the roof" door.

SLAVERY IN THE SULTAN'S CAPITAL.

An Account of the Traffic.
There are actually at Stambul about ninety regular slave dealers who buy and sell slaves, or who are the medium of buying or selling, "an influential Turkish gentleman," a Mahomedan, says in a letter to the *Daily News* from Stambul. The slaves are locked in houses known by the public, just as they know the dealers in any sort of merchandise. The principal slave houses are about thirty.

The Price of a Slave.
An Abyssinian maiden from 14 to 17 is worth from 60 to 120 liras (a lira is worth about 18s.), but a handsome one is sure to bring 300 liras. White slaves (Teherkes) are more abundant. Maidens from 12 to 15 are quoted from 60 to 300 liras, and those from 16 to 20 from 60 to 1,000 liras. The price varies according to beauty, size, complexion, and accomplishments. Singers and musicians generally bring a good price. In the days of Ismail Pacha the price of slaves was double what it is today. It should be noted here that the slaves exported to Egypt greatly improved the breed of the Egyptians. One can immediately distinguish an Egyptian who has had for a mother or father a Circassian slave, from the Egyptian *pur sang*. Many people here buy slaves for legal marriages, preferring them to Turks. The reason is that a slave has no relations (mother-in-law especially), and, therefore, no visitors or callers. She endeavours to please her husband. She is obedient and economical, and very affectionate even, if pretty well treated.

Slaves who are Well Treated.
Many slaves would not leave their masters for the world, but many others would be glad to obtain their liberty. Some are well looked after, well cared for, richly dressed, and have costly jewels. They dine with their lady and are treated as companions and as members of the family. Among the possessors of slaves who were the most noted for their kindness and benevolence was the late Prince Zeinab Effendi, the daughter of the first Viceroy of Egypt, Mohamed Ali. During her lifetime she gave monthly allowances from two to fifty liras to each of her slaves. She had some eighty of them married to respectable gentlemen, and gave to each a dowry of from £1,000 to £25,000. Before her death, three years ago, she made a will granting freedom to all her slaves, and distributing to them valuable presents and settlements. Many pashas treat their slaves with great kindness and generosity.

The Other Side of the Picture.
I give these details as an impartial writer should do; but impartiality must also make me say that there are other slaves who are treated with brutality and harshness—when a girl of 13 is compelled to submit to the barbarism of men of a worse type than Moussa Bey. There are hundreds of young girls who are sold to persons who sell them or exchange them for others of greater beauty. It is revolting to see to what extent slavery is encouraged here, and how many of these poor creatures would like to fly away from the brutality of their masters, and how many others are exported against their will. In general, slavery here is the curse of the country. In a few lines I will explain how a slave is bought or sold. She is taken home, visited by a midwife and a doctor to see her state of health. If her state and accomplishments are approved she is purchased. The following is a copy of the purchase contract:—"I (the name of the proprietor of the slave) declare to have sold to X (the name of the purchaser) the slave . . . for the sum of . . . piastres in gold, which slave is my property. I have received the money in full, and declare that X (the slave) is now the property of . . . and that he is satisfied with his actual status (Scal) and name of the seller." Slavery is against the religion of Islam. I have consulted many high sooths about it, and find it illegal.

The Sultan's Fifteen Hundred Slaves
But here customs and usages become law, and the imperial harem contains more than 1,500 purchased slaves. Many slaves have run away from their masters to the British ambassador and her Majesty's consulate, but all that these authorities could do was to put themselves in communication with the police.

THE POST OFFICE AND THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT.
An important question under the Weights and Measures Act has been brought up in the Lord Chief Justice's Court. The Attorney-General moved for a rule nisi for a prohibition against the justices of the Petty Sessions Division of Bromley, Kent, to restrain them from further proceeding upon a summons, issued against the postmaster of the town in the county. The point raised, he said, affected a number of places in the United Kingdom, and had reference to the right of inspectors under the Weights and Measures Act to inspect the scales delivered by the Postmaster-General for the purposes of the parcel post. These scales were not used for the purposes of trade, and therefore, he submitted, did not come under the terms of the Act; but there had been conflicting decisions on the subject. If the scales were liable to be inspected, £4,000 a year would have to be paid by the local authorities. The summons was for having possession of a scale which was false and unjust; but the scales were inspected on behalf of the Postmaster-General from time to time, and every care taken to see that they were accurate. Their lordships granted a rule as asked for.

A HORRIBLE SHARK STORY.
Thomas Pynch, Fredrick and Edmund were indulging in their usual pull in the club skiff in the harbour at Melbourne on the morning. As they were passing between Bradley's Head and Clark Island, the scene of the late fatal boat accident, they were horrified to see a shoal of sharks tossing about a human body. They pulled nearer the spot, and then discovered the body to be that of a female completely dressed, and swollen to an enormous size by long immersion in the water. The party endeavoured to make fast to the boat, but the sharks so viciously that the occupants became alarmed and pulled away to give notice to the police. Mr. Tooth's small steam yacht was within hail, and quickly reached the spot, but the sharks were so fierce that they tossed the body quite out of the water, and so terrified the men on the yacht that they were obliged to wait till the water police arrived before they could secure the body. Then a horrible sight was witnessed. As the remains were being lifted into the boat, the sharks fiercely attacked them and tore away nearly all the left side. The remains were eventually removed to the Circular Quay Morgue.

It is averred that in a late divorce trial in Maine, at the moment when the judge was decreeing the divorce, the clerk held in his hand a telegram from the wife, asking to be informed when she might be married as soon as she could legally be done.

Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil.—Its Use. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold in capsules, and is a valuable remedy, especially in the treatment of children. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold in capsules, and is a valuable remedy, especially in the treatment of children. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold in capsules, and is a valuable remedy, especially in the treatment of children.

A POOR MAN'S GRIEVANCE.

A female, whom a respectable-looking bricklayer described as "a terrible wife," was the subject of an application at the Dalston Police Court on Wednesday. She frequently, he alleged, stayed out all night and squandered his money in drink, and last week she was guilty of a worse offence. On November 23rd, too, she took a portion of his wages, and bought another man a pair of boots. That man was still in his house.—Mr. Haden Corser: What do you want?—Applicant: A divorce.—Mr. Haden Corser: You will have to go to the superior courts.—Applicant: But I am only a poor bricklayer, and I can't afford it.—Mr. Haden Corser: Well, you can't get a divorce here. But if all you say is true I should say you are not bound to keep her.—Applicant: And what about the man?—Mr. Haden Corser: Turn him out. Take a policeman to see that no unnecessary violence is used, and turn the man out.—Applicant (with determination): I'll do it!

SHOCKING DISCOVERY AT BERMONDSEY.

Mr. G. P. Wyatt, deputy-coroner for East Surrey, held an inquiry at the Havelock public-house, Bermondsey, respecting the death of a male child, the offspring of Jane Carrall, a domestic servant out of place, which was found in a box at No. 7, Earl's Cottages, Bermondsey, on Monday last.—Mrs. Frances Matilda King, the landlady at the above address, said that she had known Carrall for the last five years. On Thursday, November 14th, during witness's absence from home, she came to the house and asked witness's daughter to allow her to remain, as she had nowhere to go. This was accordingly done. She told witness upon her return that she was suffering from an irritation of the skin. Witness was unaware that she was encoined. About eleven o'clock on Monday morning witness went to the girl's bedroom, when she discovered her insensible on the floor, and from what she saw she had no doubt but that she had been delivered of a child. The girl was put to bed, and a medical man called in.—Dr. James Wells, of 230, Old Kent-road, stated that upon his arrival he found Carrall in bed, and apparently very ill, and questioned her, but that she denied any irritation of the skin. Witness was aware that she was encoined. About eleven o'clock on Monday morning witness went to the girl's bedroom, when she discovered her insensible on the floor, and from what she saw she had no doubt but that she had been delivered of a child. The girl was put to bed, and a medical man called in.—Dr. James Wells, of 230, Old Kent-road, stated that upon his arrival he found Carrall in bed, and apparently very ill, and questioned her, but that she denied any irritation of the skin. Witness was aware that she was encoined. About eleven o'clock on Monday morning witness went to the girl's bedroom, when she discovered her insensible on the floor, and from what she saw she had no doubt but that she had been delivered of a child. 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The SUBSCRIPTION LIST will OPEN on MONDAY, December the 2nd, and will CLOSE for LONDON on

THE AUSTRALIAN OCHRE COMPANY, Limited.

Incorporated under the Companies' Acts, 1862 to 1880, by which the liability of shareholders is limited to the amount of their shares.

CAPITAL £50,000. Divided into 50,000 Shares of 1s each.

Of which 16,000 will be allotted to the Vendors as fully paid-up, and the remaining 34,000 Shares to be transferred to the Company, and the remaining 34,000 Shares now offered for subscription.

Payable 2s. 6d. on Application, 7s. 6d. on Allotment, and the balance in call not exceeding 1s. 6d. at intervals of not less than two months.

The Directors do not receive any remuneration in any one year exceeding 10 per cent. of the net profit earned, and no payment whatever will be made to the vendors (who bear all expenses up to allotment) unless the reports on the property sold, be substantially verified by an Expert appointed by the Board.

DIRECTORS:

F. M. RODNEY CARTER, Esq., Brooklyn House, Brentford, Essex.

THAS. W. HOAR, Esq. (Messrs. O'Hara and Hoar, Colonial Importers), 11, Lime-street, E.C.

Major Sir Wm. Woodhouse, K.C.B. Wotton House, Wotton, Bucks.

(Colmington), 13, Chippendale, E.C.
 FRANK RAFFORD, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, & Garden
 Court, Temple, E.C.
 With power to add to their number.
 I will join Board after Allotment.
 LOCAL COMMITTEE:
 The Hon. F. ABIGAIL, M.P. for West Sydney, ex-Minister
 of Education, New South Wales.
 JAMES E. TONKIN, Esq., M.P. for East Macquarie, Sydney.
 BANKERS:
 THE MANCHESTER AND LIVERPOOL DISTRICT
 BANKING COMPANY, Limited, 74, Cornhill, London;
 Manchester and Liverpool and Branches.
 BROKER:
 CHAS. LLOYD ROBERTS, 7, Coplethall-court, E.C.

G. H. COSTANT, Esq., F.I.C., F.C.S., A.I.C.M., 39, Lime street, E.O.
AGENTS:
To be appointed by the Shareholders at the Statutory Meeting.
SECRETARY (pro tem.):
GEORGE H. SAFFORD, Esq.
OFFICES:
4 OLD JEWRY, E.O.

PROMOTERS.

THIS Company is formed to acquire three Mining Leases granted by the Government of South Wales, and a lease comprising 40 acres, the whole 120 acres being in one block and situated in the district of Duffco, a rising city 27½ miles distant from London.

There are several lodges, by the terms of the mining leases, the lessees have the right to build, on the property, and the same shall be the case for all the term of 30 years, with the option by statute to be renewed for a like term at a nominal rental of five shillings per acre per annum.

There are also attached to the reports on the property by Mr. R. H. Vandenberg, Prospector; Mr. C. T. Ormiston, Analytical Chemist; Mr. G. McGillivray, Practical Miner; and Mr. G. T. Wilson, Prospector; and also the reports of Messrs. O'Hara, Prospector; and Messrs. J. H. and J. W. Newton, of the firm of Messrs. J. H. and J. W. Newton, and Messrs. Reid and Reid, Colour Manufacturers, as to the quality and value of the ochres.

There are several lodges, the main lode being 100 feet wide on the surface, and the lode runs nearly the whole length of the property from south by east to north by west, and has been proved to the depth of 30 feet.

about 55 per cent, and delivered in Great Britain, Europe, and the United States, in the form of yellow ochres. In a powdered form, according to the enclosed reports, the price is at present 25 to 30 per ton, therefore considerable profits may be anticipated.

It is interesting to draw special attention to the likelihood of other shades of colour being discovered, inasmuch as in the reports already four colours, viz. two yellows, a red, and a purple, have been found. Purple ochres of a fine quality are of considerable economic value than the yellow ochres at present obtained from the same mine.

The country that produces the largest quantity of bright ochre is France, and from thence it is exported to all parts of the world, especially to Great Britain and the United States, and to a large extent to Italy. The demand for this ochre is very largely. Thus it will be seen that the demand for ochres is

The Company will also devote their attention to acquiring any colour manufacturing businesses which may be secured on the Continent, and to the purchase of any other business which may be worked advantageously in conjunction with their own business.

In addition to the quantities required for Europe and America, it is also expected that there will be a large demand for their manufactures in the Colonies, and the Directors intend to send themselves and her sister Colonies through this Company, and to be in a position to command a direct export trade with India, China, Japan, and the Straits Settlements, at a much lower price than any imported similar articles can be sold at in those countries.

The Directors have agreed not to receive any remuneration in any one year unless in such a year a dividend of 10 per cent. has been declared.

The following Contract has been entered into on the 24th day of

George Thomas Nola, Phillip Ley, and William Davidson, of Daboo, New South Wales, of the one part and Frederick John Davis, of the other part, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the original of the said Deed of Assignment, between the said George Thomas Nola, Phillip Ley, and William Davidson (by the said Frederick John Davis, their Attorney) of the one part, and the said Frederick John Davis, of the other part; and the contract of purchase, dated the 17th September, 1886, between the said George Thomas Nola, Phillip Ley, and William Davidson, George Thomas Nola, Phillip Ley, and William Davidson (by the said Frederick John Davis, their Attorney) of the one part, and the said Frederick John Davis, of the other part, by which the said George Thomas Nola, Phillip Ley, and William Davidson, the Company are to acquire the three Minner Leases and Rights.

The Vendors (by the said Frederick John Davis) are the sole and exclusive owners of the said three Minner Leases and Rights, and the Company and have fixed the price to be paid by the Company for the same at the sum of £1000.

ordinary expenses of the formation and bringing out of the Company, and the issue of its Capital. They (by the said President, John Davis) have entered into contracts and arrangements with the said Contractors, for the issue of and payment to them out of the purchase-money, to use of and in aid of the said Company as a party. As these contracts and arrangements may technically be contracts within the meaning of Sec. 35 of "The Companies' Act, 1862," the said President, John Davis, has agreed to ratify and confirm the same, and waive any fuller compliance with the provisions thereof, and to indemnify the said Contractors, in respect of the same, in accordance therewith. The said contract of purchase and the Memorandum and Articles of Association can be seen at the office of the said Secretary, and the said President, John Davis, and the originals of the accompanying documents, and the names of the subscribers for Shares are invited to inspect these documents. Applications for Shares should be made on the accompanying

returned in full; and if the number of Shares allotted in less than the number applied for, the balance of the deposit will be credited in reduction of the further amount payable on the Shares allotted.

Prospectuses, reports, maps of the district, and forms of application for Shares may be obtained from the Company's Bankers, Brokers, Solicitor, and Company's Offices.

Samples of the Oeures can be seen at the Office of the company.

COOK'S

GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1889.

Tested in a Physiological Laboratory as a Germ Destroyer, and proved to be

ANTISEPTIC

Recommended by
THE HIGHEST MEDICAL
AUTHORITIES FOR
ECZEMA, RINGWORM,
and all
SKIN DISORDERS.
"Lancet," May 12th, 1895, says—
"The importance of such a Soap in
Medical and Sanitary Science is very
obvious."

SOAP.

SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS.

Thomson's Patent.) EDWARD BUCKBIRT CO.,
Household and Toilet Soap Makers,
London, E.

The People.

Offices: MILFORD-LANE, STRAND, W.C.

IN THE MIDDLE ORDER OF HUMANITY ARE
GENERALLY TO BE FOUND ALL THE ARTS.

LORD SALISBURY AT NOTTINGHAM.
The Conservative conference at Nottingham did well to secure the services of the PRIME MINISTER as principal speaker. It

GLADSTONE delivered a certain speech, in which he related the famous story about colonel DOPPING and the loaded—or, rather, unloaded—gun, which was pointed at the little boy, and for which Mr. GLADSTONE was compelled by the indignant colonel to offer an object apology. Therefore, it was well that the Unionist PREMIER should be chosen to face the local recollections of the leader of the

eparatist Opposition. Lord SALISBURY had
o DUFFINE fable to broach, it is true. He

The "plan of campaign" has, it is
announced, broken down on the Olmsted estate.

an- I shall say no more, because I don't want
tate. much made of it."—Mr. Alderman Phil
remanded the accused

Sufferings of Passengers.

Story.

for twelve days later than that given above

A correspondent states that with regard to the expenses of this expedition it may be well to recall the fact that the committee started with \$20,000. From the balance-sheet which has just been prepared it is seen that of this there still remains unexpended \$475. But it must not be thought that the original sum will suffice. Mr. Stanley has still to render his account, and the committee estimate that it will probably cost another \$40,000 to complete the mission. As to the very thing which it is reported Emin has with him, the committee know nothing about it. With the exception of about 210,000 of the original sum Sir William Mackinnon and his friends have taken for some most of the expense.

For example, the following table shows the results of a regression analysis of the relationship between the number of hours worked per week and the number of children in the household.

LAST WEEK'S POLICE.

City Summons Court.

THE ALDERMAN AND THE FLOWER GIRL.—Alice G. was summoned for exposing flowers upon the footway in Liverpool-street so as to cause an obstruction or annoyance to the foot-passengers. Police-constable 973 gave evidence that he cautioned the defendant several times about obstructing the footway, and as she took no heed he told her he should summon her. Numerous complaints have been received from persons who had been annoyed by the flower girls. On being asked what answer she had to the charge, the defendant said she did not cause any obstruction at all. The constable came up and wrongly accused her, saying, "I have been waiting all the week to have you, and"—Alderman Rensals: Stop, stop! You are not telling the truth. You girls are a perfect nuisance in Liverpool-street. I have been there many times and seen you following people and thrusting flowers in their faces, and the worst of it is that you will not go away when people tell you. You are not only insolent, but you are a perfect nuisance; and then you come here and don't tell the truth. I know what you are saying about the constable was not true. However, I am going to give you another chance. Will you promise not to obstruct the street again?—Defendant: Yes, sir.—Alderman Rensals: Very well then, I will discharge you, but the policeman was quite right in bringing you here.

Guildhall.

CRUELTY TO A HORSE.—George Smith, carman, and William Attwood, grain contractor, of Mile End, were charged with cruelty to a horse, the former by working it while lame, and the latter by allowing it to be so worked. Police-constable Sparks, 841, stated that he was in Gracechurch-street on Friday afternoon, when he saw Smith driving the animal. He noticed that it went very lame on both hind legs, so he stopped the defendant, and charged him with cruelty.—Mr. Justice M.E.C.V.S. said that he had examined the horse. It was very lame in both hind feet, which were cankered. It was only fit to be destroyed.—Mr. Alderman Rensals (to Attwood): What have you to say?—Attwood: I was not aware that its feet were cankered. I have been treating it for grease.—The Alderman: Oh! that is absurd. Any one having the slightest knowledge of horses can tell the difference between canker and grease. What do you propose doing with this horse?—Attwood: I will have it destroyed.—The Alderman: On that understanding I will give you the option of a fine. I consider it a gross case of cruelty, and shall fine you the full penalty of 45 and 15 costs, or 21 days' imprisonment. Smith was fined 5s.

RAILWAY STATION THEFTS.—Richard Seamer, a rough-looking fellow, was charged on remand with stealing a purse containing 41 17s. 6d from the hand-bag of Mrs. Mary Smith at Liverpool-street Railway Station. Harris (the gaoler) proved a previous conviction against the accused, who pleaded guilty, and asked to be dealt with summarily. The magistrate sentenced him to three months' imprisonment, with hard labour.—Thomas Carr, 40, was charged on remand with stealing a pair of opera glasses, value 41 1s., the property of Miss N. Carlisle, from a seat in the waiting-room of Liverpool-street Railway Station. The facts of the case have already been reported. The prisoner was remanded in order that inquiries might be made into a statement of his son, to the effect that he had been keeping his father and five children upon his earnings as a barman of 10s. per week. The family, he said, were also in a very destitute state.—On Saturday Detective Savage informed the alderman that he had made inquiries, and discovered that the son was out of work, and that there were only two children.—Mr. Alderman Rensals said that the inquiries had not resulted satisfactorily. He should send the prisoner to goal for a month, with hard labour.

Marlborough-street.

A BARMAID IN LONDON.—Margaret Chisholm, described as a barmaid, from Turner's-road, was charged with being disorderly in Piccadilly at one o'clock that morning. Police-constable James said the prisoner, who stood over six feet in height, was after the men. He cautioned her and requested her to go home, but she heeded him not. As soon as his back was turned she resumed her tactics, and followed three gentlemen from St. James's Hall to Hatchett's Hotel. Then they crossed the roadway to go into Arlington-street. As they did so the tall barmaid was at their heels again, and in trying to seize hold of one of them she nearly fell into the road.—The Prisoner: I did not fall.—Mr. Newton: He has not said that you did, but you nearly fell.—The Prisoner: Well, I don't remember anything about it. I had been drinking a "little," and the gentleman I spoke to was a dear old friend of mine. He followed me to the station, and would have appeared this morning, but that his business prevented him doing so. In reply to the magistrate, James said that a gentleman had gone to the station, and she asked him to give her some money.—Mr. Newton: I don't know anything about that. Being told the barmaid was not known to the gaoler, she was let off with the small fine of half-a-crown.

THE VICAR AND THE CLERK.—Charles Howell, the clerk of Hanover Church, Regent-street, was summoned by the Rev. Frederick Alexander Ormsby for detaining five keys belonging to him as incumbent of the church. Mr. Woulfe, solicitor, prosecuted, and Mr. Arthur Newton defended. The complainant said he entrusted Howell in the year 1865. For a reason which he did not choose to mention he dismissed him on the 16th of the present month, and asked him to give up the keys. This he refused to do, and although several applications had since been made for them, both by him and his solicitor, he was unable to get them. The keys were those of the front gate, the back door, the front door, and two of the safe containing the communion plate.—In cross-examination, the reverend gentleman denied that the churchwarden engaged Howell, and that there had been any unpleasantness between himself and the clerk.—Mr. Newton was proceeding to cross-examine with respect to matters that had taken place before the dismissal, when Mr. Woulfe submitted to the magistrate that the question was whether the churchwarden or the incumbent had the right to the keys.—Mr. Hannay ruled that Mr. Woulfe was right, upon which Mr. Newton put his client into the witness-box, and he gave evidence on oath. He said he was engaged about three years ago by the churchwarden, with which Mr. Ormsby was the first to speak to him on the subject. Mr. Scrivens, who was then churchwarden, told him what the salary was, remarking at the time that he did not think it would be worth his while to take the post. Mr. Scrivens' clerk handed him the keys. The churchwarden had not dismissed him, but Mr. Ormsby had. The reason he assigned was that he had told somebody he was not wanted in the rectory, upon which occasion Mr. Hannay said that there had been a quarrel on the part of the clerk. I order him to hand the keys to Mr. Ormsby, or to pay 45s. their value, and to pay 25s. costs.—Mr. Arthur Newton protested against a fanciful value being put on the keys, but Mr. Hannay said the complainant could assess them at what value he liked.

THE MUSIC TEACHER AND THE SADDLE OF MUTTON.—May Mitchell, a respectably-dressed young woman, described as a teacher of music, was charged with stealing a saddle of mutton from a rail in the shop of Mr. J. E. Scarlett, butcher, of Air-street.—Francis Slattery, an assistant, said that at half-past five on Friday evening the prisoner came to the shop and asked him to tell her the time. He did so, and at twenty minutes to six a gentleman named Kemp came in and told him that she had stolen the mutton. Witness followed her and caught her in Sherwood-street. "He had the mutton in her possession, and when I asked her she had stolen it, she said that she had no intention of doing so, and re-

turned with him to the shop.—Mr. Kemp said that his suspicion was aroused when he saw the prisoner walk away with the mutton without having taken the book out of it.—A constable said that she made the same statement when he arrested her. She gave an address in Edith Grove, Fulham, but it was found to be false. She had plenty of money in her pocket to have paid for the meat. The prisoner said she had been drinking, and under an "unfortunate impulse" she took the mutton. She had never been in trouble before.—Mr. Newton remanded her for a week, and ordered the police to inquire who and what she was, and where she came from.

STEALING THREE PURSES.—Laura Fludel, a young German cook, said to belong to a Christian association, was charged on remand with stealing three purses and 12s. 2d., the money of Elsie Medlar, of Frith-street.—The prosecutor said that on Monday week the prisoner came to her residence and asked for the key of a house that was to be let close by. She told her that the late tenants had taken it away, and she then left. A purse was subsequently missed from a table near to which she had been standing. On the Thursday following the accused came again and asked for the key, and then another purse was missed from the room. On the Saturday she paid a third visit, and when she (the prosecutor) saw her entering the house she purposely placed an empty purse on the corner of the table. Whilst they were in conversation, the girl gradually shifted the purse until she got it close to a shelf, and then she stealthily picked it up and placed it behind a looking-glass. A constable was called in, and she was given into custody. She then confessed to having stolen and pawned the other purses. The same afternoon she was remanded in order that some one from the German Consulate might be consulted, with a view to her being sent back to her native place.—On Saturday a gentleman attended, and as already a lady who knew the prisoner and her friends.—Mr. Newton ordered another remand, saying that until the girl's friends had been communicated with and asked if they were willing to receive the girl back, he did not feel disposed to send her to prison.

A NICE COUPLE.—Maggie Hearn and Catherine Devine, two little women belonging to the white apron brigade, were brought up for being disorderly in Leicester-square at eight o'clock on Friday night.—The pair indulged in a street encounter. A constable said that when he reached the spot they were tugging at each other's hair, and he had to call for assistance to enable him to part them. Then they presented a sorry figure. Their back locks were all down, and their faces were tattooed with finger marks. No sooner had he separated them than they flew at each other again, and scratched and clawed like a couple of tigresses. Hearn was intoxicated, and had to be carried to the police station on a stretcher. When near to it she spat in his eye and nearly blinded him.—Hearn said she had been a teetotaler, but on Friday she broke the pledge and got into trouble.—Devine was silent as to her conduct.—Hearn was mulcted in 10s., or seven days, and Devine was let off with a fine of 5s.

Thames.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—Ann Cronin, 39, was charged with attempting to commit suicide on Old Gravel-lane Bridge, Shadwell.—John Allen, 582 K, said: At nine o'clock on Friday night I was on duty on Old Gravel-lane Bridge, when the prisoner came on to the bridge in an excited state, got on to the parapet, and was about to throw herself over. As I caught hold of her and dragged her back, she said, "Let me do it! I would rather drown myself than be knocked about by my husband." She was with some other females, and I told her I would allow her to go with them, and she left for a quarter of an hour, but returned, and made a second attempt to mount the parapet, when I took her into custody.—The husband, who was in court, said he had a quarrel with the prisoner on Friday, and pushed her, but did not strike her.—Mr. Lushington discharged the prisoner on her expressing contrition for her conduct, and granted a summons against her husband for assault.

Marylebone.

"ONLY A PENNY."—Frederick Ellis, 25, living at Spitalfields, was charged with causing an obstruction by using a device with intent to deceive her Majesty's subjects.—Detective Bridges, S. Division, said the prisoner was in High-street, Camden Town, on Friday, addressing a large crowd of people. He had some common rings wrapped up in a paper, and he offered them at three-penny pieces into the parcel, and he offered the parcels for sale at one penny each. To impose upon the public he showed them a three-penny piece in one parcel he held in his hand, and he also had a small rattle in his hand, so that when he shook the parcels the rattle sounded, and the people round thought the parcels contained the three-penny pieces, whereas they did not. The footway was obstructed, so witness took the prisoner into custody.—Mr. Cooke, who said the prisoner might have been charged with obtaining money by fraud, imposed a fine of 7s., or in default seven days' imprisonment.

West London.

CONSTABLES CHARGED WITH ASSAULT.—The father of a boy arrested before the magistrat for a summons against Police-constable 509 T for an assault committed on his son.—Mr. Plowden called for the boy, who said he was looking through some holes in a door at Olympia, when the constable came up, and without speaking, took hold of his ear and nearly lifted him off the ground. He suffered pain all the day.—Mr. Plowden granted the summons.—One of the drivers of the Road Car Company applied for a summons against Police-constable 121 T for an assault committed upon him. He was before the court on Friday charged by the same constable for disorderly conduct in the North End-road. It then appeared that a man was singing after midnight, and the constable desired him to desist. It was alleged that the driver interfered and used, and he refusing to desist the constable took him into custody. The magistrate in discharging him thought the constable had taken an exaggerated view of his duty, and said there was no reason why the man should not sing a song, it being a free country.—The driver in his application pressed for a summons, stating that he was violently assaulted by the constable.—Mr. Plowden granted the summons.

POCKET-PICKING AT BARNUM'S SHOW.—Henrietta Miller, a young woman who was described as a mantle-maker, was charged with attempting to pick pockets at Olympia.—Chief-inspector George Cruise said he was employed by Mr. Barnum at Olympia. On Friday night he saw the prisoner in a crowd who were viewing the living curiosities. As she came out she placed her hand in a bag. He watched, and saw her enter a second crowd and stand behind a lady, who suddenly moved, and the prisoner's hand left her pocket. She moved away, and stood behind another lady. He got up close and seized the prisoner while her hand was in the lady's pocket. In the bag he found some loose silver, and a watch containing 6s. 5d. The prisoner said, "You old fool, you are too sharp. If you had waited you would have seen something."—The Prisoner: It is a lot of lies. I never spoke to him.—Mr. Plowden said attempting to pick pockets at Olympia must be stopped. It afforded great temptation to persons who wished to pick pockets. He committed her to prison for one month, with hard labour.

Westminster.

DISORDERLY BIRTHDAY PARTY.—A youth named Frederick Johnson appeared before the magistrate on a serious charge. A few days ago a young ladies' party in Gunter Grove, Chelsea, singing and dancing were going on, when Johnson, with another man, opened the door and entered the room. Asked what they wanted, they replied "Beer," and when Woods tried to eject them he was severely kicked and hit.—The prisoner

was sent to goal for fourteen days, with hard labour.

Southwark.

A SCHOOLBOY CHARGED WITH STABBING.—Lawrence Turner, 12, a schoolboy, of 47, The Grange, Abbey-street, Bermondsey, was charged with cutting and wounding James Hynd Burnett, aged 12, by stabbing him in the back with a knife.—The prosecutor stated that on Friday about five o'clock he was going home from school when he saw Turner run up to him and struck him over the head with a stick. Another boy endeavoured to take the stick away, but Turner struck him also. Witness then went to his assistance, and the prisoner pulled out a pocket knife, opened the blade, and said, "If you come near me I'll stick this in you." At the same time the prisoner made a blow at witness's face, but added Burnett, I saw he had a knife in his hands so I ducked my head and the knife went into my back.—Mr. Fenwick: Did he stab you in the back?—Witness: No, I don't think he did it. I thought I think it was more for a "game."—Henry Thompson said he endeavoured to get the stick away from the prisoner, and when Burnett came up and helped him the accused struck him in the back with the knife.—Police-constable 17 MR said he was called by Turner's father, who said his son had been stabbed in the back. Witness took the boy to Guy's Hospital. The wound was dressed by the house surgeon, who said the wound was not dangerous, but the blade of the knife had struck the backbone. The wound was about half an inch in length and about an inch deep.—Mr. Fenwick recalled the boy Thompson, who said he was quite sure Turner stabbed Burnett wilfully, and not accidentally.—His worship remanded the prisoner for a week, ordering him to be sent to the workhouse.

Wandsworth.

A HINT TO THE POLICE.—POLICE OVER-ZEALOUSNESS.—Mr. Inman attended on behalf of Major Lennan, in whose hands is placed the authority of enforcing the rabies order, to support several summonses against persons for being the owners of dogs and permitting them to be at large unmuzzled.—In the case of Mr. William Langton, residing at 4, Priory Villas, Halloway, he said the dogs escaped from the house by accident. He assured the magistrate that he had no intention of disobeying the order, and complained of two police officers coming to his house at half past eleven at night, when he was in bed, and remaining half an hour.—Police-constable 532 W was questioned as to this, and said he went to the house at the hour mentioned, in order to obtain the defendant's Christian name.—Mr. Mead (with surprise): At half-past eleven at night?—The Constable: Yes, sir.—The Defendant: I spoke to the officers about it, and they said they would come at two in the morning if they felt so inclined.—Mr. Mead: Illuded to the fact that the officers would not have sent them to the house at so late an hour.—Mr. Mead remarked that it would be dangerous to lay down a principle for anything and everything. He thought the conduct of the police in visiting a gentleman's house at half-past eleven at night was intolerable, and wholly unnecessary.—Defendant thanked the magistrate for his expression of opinion.—Mr. Mead took into consideration the facts, and imposed a nominal penalty of 10s. on the defendant.—Mr. Walter Gough, residing in Union-road, Wandsworth, was summoned for a similar offence.—Mr. Inman said the dog was wearing a kind of muzzle which Mr. Hannay, the magistrate, had held did not meet the requirements of the order.—Mr. Mead said each case should be considered on its merits, and Mr. Inman concurred.—The defendant pleaded as an excuse that he was not aware of Mr. Hannay's decision; but Mr. Mead pointed out that it was not a question of judicial decision, but of common sense. A muzzle of such a character would not prevent a dog from biting, and that the defendant must have known. He would have to pay a fine of 5s., with costs.—Penalties were imposed in other cases.

West Ham.

INTIMIDATION AT SILVERTOWN.—James Rogers, 40, a labourer, of Charles-street, Silvertown, was charged with assaulting Joseph Gennell, and with using violence for the purpose of compelling him to abstain from prosecuting and continuing his lawful work and occupation at Silvertown. Mr. St. John Wortner prosecuted, and Mr. W. M. Thompson defended.—The evidence showed that Gennell is a fitter at Silver's works, and that about one o'clock on the 19th inst., as he was leaving work to go to dinner, he found a large crowd at the corner of Winchester-street. The pathway was blocked up, and as he tried to pass along he was jostled, and the hustling by-and-by resolved into active violence. He was kicked above the legs and down the back, and was struck by Rogers. Gennell himself did not get the blow given, but three men who were leaving the works at the same time deposed that Rogers gave it. The crowd was very disorderly, and several men were arrested by the police, some of whom were charged at the court the next day.—Several witnesses were then called to say they saw no blows given by Rogers, and in the result Mr. Baggeley said that ample warning had been given to all these people that they had no right to use any intimidation. He committed Rogers to goal for a month without the option of a fine.

INQUESTS.

BURNED TO DEATH AT WALWORTH.—Mr. G. P. Wyatt held an inquest at the Montpelier Tavern, Walworth, on the body of Walter Graham Legge, aged 6 years, the son of a tobacco-cutter, residing at No. 4, Arthur-street, Walworth.—Elizabeth Legge, the mother, said that on Tuesday evening, about eight o'clock, she went out, leaving the deceased with two younger children in bed. Upon her return about ten minutes afterwards she saw the deceased in the landlady's arms, and was informed by her that he had set fire to his night-dress. A medical man was at once called in. The deceased told witness that he was reaching over the grate, in which a fire was burning, to get a pin off the match-box, when his night-shirt took fire, upon which he ran out to the landing, and endeavoured to extinguish the flames by getting into a pail of water.—Harriet Pann, the landlady, stated that shortly after Mrs. Legge had gone out, she smelt something burning, and upon going upstairs discovered the deceased on the landing with his feet in a pail of water. The child was quite naked and was severely burned all over the body.—Dr. Sanford Arnott, of No. 146, Brixton-road, deposed to being called in and attending the deceased until his death, which took place about midnight on Wednesday. The cause of death was shock and exhaustion, consequent upon the injuries.—The coroner having remarked that a fire-guard been used the accident would not have happened, the jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

SINGULAR DEATH FROM BURNS.—Mr. George P. Wyatt held an inquest at St. Thomas's Hospital relative to the death of Elizabeth Victoria Leach, aged 3 years, who expired in that institution from the effects of burns under somewhat singular circumstances.—The deceased was the daughter of a ship's stoker, residing at 35, George-street, Lambeth Walk. About eleven o'clock on Thursday morning the mother had been raking out the cinders from the fireplace, and for a short time left the deceased in the room sitting on a chair in her night-dress. Screams were heard, and the unfortunate child was found to be enveloped in flames, and burnt to such an extent that she died from shock a few hours after admission to the above hospital.—The mother, in answer to the coroner, stated that she could not account for the occurrence, as the cinders in the fireplace were all out.—It was conjectured, however, that the deceased had got off the chair, and ignited her night dress with a piece of live coal which had passed unnoticed by the

mother.—A verdict of accidental death was returned.

SUSPECTED CHILD MURDER AT SHORSDITCH.—Dr. Macdonald held an inquest at Shornditch Town Hall on the body of a newly-born female child.—Police-constable Edward Parnell, 374 J, stated that he was on duty in the Haggerston-road, about half past seven on Thursday night, when his attention was called to a brown paper parcel lying in the roadway in Thomas-street, near the Salvation Army Buildings. The witness undid the parcel and found it contained the body of a female child. He took it to the station where it was seen by the divisional surgeon.—By the jury: Where the body was found was a public place, and it could not have been there many minutes.—Dr. Jackson deposed to having examined the body. In his opinion the child had lived.—The jury returned an open verdict of found dead.

THE FATAL FIRED AT WHITECHAPEL.—The inquest on the body of the man, Arthur Careless, for causing whose death James Donovan, of Upper Well-street, Whitechapel, had been remanded from the Thames Police Court, was held by Coroner Baxter on Saturday at St. George's Vestry Hall, when the jury, after a patient listening to the recapitulation of the evidence given by the police court, returned a verdict of accidental death.

GENERAL KINCHANT AND HIS WIFE.

The case of Kinchant v. Kinchant was resumed before Mr. Justice Butt this week. The petition was that of General John Chantion Kinchant, a retired officer of the 11th Hussars, for restitution of conjugal rights. His wife, Mrs. Eva Caroline Kinchant, pleaded cruelty, and sought a judicial separation.—Mr. Justice Butt, in giving his decision, said there were allegations made by the wife of general unkindness, violent temper, and such conduct on the part of her husband to make her life, as she said, "a misery." That was vague and indefinite; but there were four occasions alleged by the wife against the husband of considerable personal violence, some of which were corroborated by her maid, who also said that she had seen marks of bruises upon her mistress; and that her husband was of a violent temper. She, moreover, said that her mistress enjoined her not to speak to any one of what had been perpetrated upon her. These allegations were met with a flat denial by the petitioner, who said that there was not a word of truth in them. It had been said by Mr. Crump that there had been improper importation into this case a good deal of prejudice against his client on the score of debts, and as to the allegations General Kinchant did or did not make before and at the time of the marriage. However one might disapprove of a man having in debt inducing a young girl to marry him in ignorance of the

State of his Exchequer, that in itself would constitute no defence to the remedy the husband was seeking in this case; but when one had to deal with the credibility of witnesses, matters of this sort sometimes became important. The husband was in direct contradiction as to the actual assaults alleged against him with his wife and her maid, and also with the lady's father in regard to the question of money matters. One set of witnesses or the other were telling a deliberate falsehood. The allegation on the part of the wife was that the husband, before or at the time of the engagement, told her that he had no debts except to his tailor and tradesmen, amounting to a matter of £200, and this he told afterwards to his wife's father. General Kinchant swore that his father-in-law never asked him about these debts. It was likely, in a case of a gentleman bringing nothing into settlement, that the father of this young lady would allow the marriage to take place without some inquiry as to the circumstances of an intended son-in-law. All the probabilities were on the other side. The same consideration applied to the wife's evidence in the matter. But even taking the petitioner's own account of the matter, he did not figure in a very enviable light, because he said that he told her on the night he proposed marriage to her that he owed £4,000 or £5,000, and within a month or six weeks of the date when the marriage was called upon to pay from £12,000 to £13,000, therefore he really married under false representations. He did not believe the evidence of the petitioner, and could not take his denial; therefore he found that General Kinchant was a man of violent temper, not scrupulous, that he committed these acts of violence alleged, and that there was abundantly sufficient evidence to induce the court to refuse his petition for restitution of conjugal rights. That petition would be dismissed, and he granted the wife a judicial separation, with costs.

THE SUFFERINGS OF THE HONEST.

Evidence given at an inquest held at Greenwich Workhouse on the body of Daisy H-shoop, aged 6 years, daughter of John H-shoop, painter and house decorator, of 12, Selcroft-road, East Greenwich, discloses a distressing story of hidden poverty and struggle with misfortune. The father formerly resided at Plumstead, and his wife died three years ago. The eldest son and daughter were away from home, and he was left with six children, whose ages now are—Thomas, 18; Sydney, 14; Alfred, 9. For two years he paid towards a house at Plumstead to a building society, but being unable to keep up the payments the house was taken from him, and in respect of that house he was summoned to Woolwich Police Court for 41s. 6d. marsh rate, and 41s. 9d. general rate, but he had no means of paying, and was allowed time by the magistrate. Four of the children caught the whooping-cough, it was believed at school, and from them the father took it, and suffered also from blood-poisoning or painter's colic, and as he was racked with pains in his joints, and was laid up, and he had been gradually going down hill. On the 14th of November the youngest child, a son named William, who was wanted on a complaint for non-payment of rates, and he was conveyed to Holloway (Gaol) for seven days. As Thomas had a little work, the care of the children at times devolved upon Sydney, aged 14, who appears to have nursed the deceased, and did all he could for the other children. A few days ago Thomas observed Daisy looked strange, and sent Sydney for the doctor, who said he could not come, and advised some one else to come for, and when Sydney got home he found Daisy was dead.—Police-constable Rance said he went to the house and saw the body, and four other children huddled round a fire. The surroundings showed destitution, and the food he found was unfit for the children. Witness went for the relieving officer, who took the children, who were suffering from whooping-cough, to the infirmary. The children appeared dirty and neglected, wanting a mother's care. Saw a late employer of the father, who gave him a twenty-seven years' character for sobriety, industry, and respectability.—The coroner remarked that the father, keeping his troubles secret, his affectionate letter from prison, and his kindness to his family.—The jury returned a verdict of death from whooping-cough, accelerated by accidental want and privation. They subscribed 28s. for the father, who came out of prison on November 23rd, for which he returned his grateful thanks.

It was announced on Saturday that four more bodies were recovered from the London pit. One was identified as that of David Halloway, aged 23.

Frederick Stephens, gamekeeper on the Worcester estate of the Duke of Armauld, died on Saturday from the effects of injuries inflicted upon him by a gun or poacher.

Lord Charles Beresford has been reported to be nearly recovered from the accident in Paris, when he was thrown from his horse.

BURGLARS AT A RECTORY.

Murderous Outrage near Woking.

An attempt was made at three on Saturday morning to break into Pyrford Rectory, near Woking. A young gentleman on a visit there, hearing a noise, went to the front door armed with a gun, but immediately on opening it he was stabbed with a sharp knife by one of two men who attempted to discharge the gun, but it would not go off, and the burglars escaped. The unfortunate gentleman was afterwards discovered lying in the garden in an unconscious state, having lost much blood.

ALARMING RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

On Saturday afternoon an alarming railway accident occurred at Pontefract. An excursion train on the Hull and Barnsley line was proceeding to Leeds at the rate, it is stated, of about fifty miles an hour, when on passing Pontefract West Junction it ran into a goods guard van. The guard in the goods van jumped out upon seeing the danger, but the driver and stoker kept their places on the engine, which left the rails, tearing up the permanent way. The engine fortunately fell to the right, or it would have drawn the train down an embankment. The driver and fireman and the laden rails of passengers escaped. The line was blocked for several hours.

A YOUNG LADY'S ADVENTURE IN PARIS.

The Warsaw papers report an extraordinary adventure which has befallen the daughter of a rich landowner at Wolhynien. A month ago the young lady was sent by her parents, accompanied by her French governess, a Parisienne by birth, to the Exhibition in Paris. Upon their arrival the governess, instead of proceeding to the hotel where she had been directed to stay with her charge, drove straight to the house of some relatives in one of the worst quarters of the city. The entire family lived huddled together in three small dirty rooms in the basement. In this miserable dwelling Madame L. was detained and informed that she would not be set at liberty till she had promised to marry the brother of the governess, a hulkish young man of the name of K..., who earned a living half by working at odd jobs and half by thieving. The unfortunate girl had no means of escape, but one day, when left alone a few minutes, she wrote a letter to her parents, which she addressed and stamped and threw from the window to the street, where it was fortunately picked up by an honest passer-by who, thinking somebody had dropped it accidentally, put it into a pillar-box. The letter arrived safely at Wolhynien, and the young lady's father, who was already alarmed at her going, on receipt of his daughter's arrival in Paris, started immediately for that city. He at once proceeded, accompanied by a policeman, to the address his daughter had given. The governess and her brother were arrested, and the young lady and her father afterwards returned to Warsaw.

ROUND THE WORLD IN SEVENTY-SEVEN DAYS.

A correspondent, writing from Calais, says that a young American lady of 19, who has undertaken to go round the world in seventy-seven days, recently left that town. This lady, who is on the staff of the *New York World*, sailed from America on November 17th, arriving at Southampton on the 21st, and proceeding to London by special train. On her way through France she alighted at Amiens to pay a visit to M. Jules Verne. The author of "Round the World in Eighty Days" did not think she could complete the trip in less than seventy-nine days. She has sailed from Brindisi for Shanghai, whence she will go to San Francisco. She is travelling alone, and wishes to show that a young English or American lady can travel by herself all over the world, and needs no acquaintance with any but her native tongue.

On Saturday Dr. Macdonald received information of the sudden death of Priscilla Johnson, aged 66 years, of 5, Union-place, Glasshouse Yard, Goswell-road, who was found dead in bed the previous day.

PEARS' SOAP.

PEARS' SOAP TESTIMONIALS FROM THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.
From Professor Sir ERASMUS WILSON, Professor of Dermatology, Royal College of Surgeons in London (in the "Journal of Cutaneous Medicine"). "The use of a good soap is certainly calculated to preserve the skin in health to maintain its complexion and tone, and prevent its falling into wrinkles. PEAR'S is a name engraven on the memory of the 'clearest ingenuity' and Pears' Transparent Soap is an article of the most and most successful manufacture, and the most refreshing and agreeable of balms for the skin."

PEARS' SOAP For the HANDS.
For the FACE.
For the BECK.
For the ARMS.
For the FEET.
For the BATH.
For the FAIR WHITE HANDS.
For the BRIGHT, CLEAR COMPLEXION.
For the SOFT HEALTHFUL SKIN.
For the PREVENTS ROUGHNESS.
For the PREVENTS REDNESS.
For the PREVENTS CHAPPING.
For the ALWAYS AGREEABLE.
For the ALWAYS SAFE.
For the ALWAYS DELICIOUS.

PEARS' SOAP TESTIMONIALS FROM THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.
From "The Bath in Health and Disease."—By the same Author. "PEAR'S SOAP is a universal for purity and is really the most economical of soaps, as it contains scarcely any water. Professor Atfield's analysis incourteously demonstrates."

PEARS' SOAP TESTIMONIALS FROM THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.
ADELINE PATTI writes:—"I have found PEAR'S SOAP matches for the hands and complexion."
(Signed) "ADELINE PATTI."

PEARS' SOAP Mrs. LANGTRY writes:—"I have much pleasure in stating I have used PEAR'S SOAP for some time, and prefer it to any other."
(Signed) "LILLIE LANGTRY."

PEARS' SOAP Miss MARY ANDERSON writes:—"I have used it two years with the greatest satisfaction, for I find it the very best."
(Signed) "MARY ANDERSON."

PEARS' SOAP Madame MARIE ROZE MAPLESON writes:—"For relieving the complexion, keeping the skin soft, free from redness and roughness, and the hands in use condition, it is the finest soap in the world."
(Signed) "MARIE ROZE."

PEARS' SOAP PEAR'S SOAP is sold everywhere in Tablets, each Tablet is 6d. and 2s. 6d. (The 2s. 6d. Tablet is performed with Otto of Rose. A smaller Tablet, unperfumed, is sold at 6d.) Inset on having Pears, as while inferior imitations are often obtained for sale, even by the name of Pears, who would be thought "respectable," some of whom attract the public into their shops, stored by making "Pears Soap" at least cost price, and then recommend some rubbish on which they get a large profit.

prisoners of war, and I was told that I was the only one of my age group to be sent to the United States. I was sent to the United States for the purpose of an experimental blood serum which took four or seven weeks to treat in the hospital, but when I was cured, I afterwards tried several private doctors in the United States. I then decided to try this American treatment, of which I was told I had heard, and I was told that treatment would not now be giving me. Yours, gratefully,
"GEORGE ADAMS, Marston Constable."

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

The new King of Portugal is a crack shot. The doctors prophesy for the Russian giantess at the Aquarium a height of six ft.

The Paris police force, which now numbers 6,100 men, is about to be increased to 7,500.

Telephone exchanges are established in 178 different German towns, with 33,460 subscribers.

A fire has destroyed the post office and three adjacent buildings at Lyme Regis.

There were 14,750 lb. of diseased or unsound meat seized in Edinburgh last month.

Mr. Bess, a Congregational minister at Lockford, California, has killed his wife and twelve-year-old son, and committed suicide.

Mr. Farmer, senior clerk, has been appointed registrar in the Chancery Division, in the place of Mr. Koo, retired.

Mr. T. A. Walker, the well-known railway and dock contractor, has died at his residence near Chesham.

A German genealogist has striven to make it appear that Mr. Gladstone is a direct descendant of Edward III.

At Driffield, in Yorkshire, old Mrs. Dinah Leak may be seen taking a quiet walk. The old lady has lived six months beyond the century.

By an explosion of gas at the Whitburn Colliery, near Sunderland, on Monday, five men have been seriously injured.

The Queen has approved of the appointment of Earl Brownlow, to be Under-Secretary of State for War, in the room of Lord Harris, the new governor of Bombay.

The Right Hon. Sir M. Morris, Bart., Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, has been appointed a lord of appeal in ordinary, in the place of the late Lord Fitzgerald.

In the Dublin Court for Crown Cases Reserved, the sentence of ten years' penal servitude on William Coll for the manslaughter of District-Inspector Martin has been confirmed.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin has received from the *Belfast News Letter*, in addition to the apology for libel printed in its pages, the sum of £500 and all costs.

An old man named John Butterworth, 79 years of age, has been sentenced to twelve months' hard labour at the Manchester Assizes for wounding his wife. The prisoner had fired a pistol at his wife, the bullet lodging in her back.

By the fall of some old houses in course of demolition in Cumberland-street, off Deansgate, Manchester, a labouring man named Walter Hughes was killed on the spot, and another, Daniel Pookin, was very seriously injured.

Mr. Balfour, in a letter to a correspondent, claims that the suggestion that the agrarian trouble in Ireland arises from difficulty experienced by tenants in getting judicial rents fixed is not warranted by the facts.

Sunday, the 3rd of November, was a day of prayer for rain throughout South Africa. At Johannesburg the services were hardly over when a thunderstorm passed over that place and rain came down in floods. The whole afternoon and evening rain and hail fell in succession.

Between the 1st April and the 23rd ult. the total receipts into the Exchequer amounted to £50,806,412, as compared with £51,305,184 in the corresponding period of the last financial year; and the expenditure to £43,307,339, as against £43,972,493.

It is feared that a strike is imminent among the Liverpool dock labourers, the officials of the union being on Monday busily engaged in the distribution of handbills. Should the strike not be averted, it will probably commence about the beginning of the year.

In his speech from the throne at the opening of the Italian Parliament, King Humbert said that peace appeared to be assured to Europe, "thanks to the concert prevailing among the great Powers." But his Majesty advised the nation to keep its armaments in a state of efficiency.

An inspector of explosives having examined the infernal machine found in a house on the Clarendon estate while evictions were taking place, has reported that it contained a compound strong enough to kill at 100 yards, and that it failed to operate because the spring was too weak.

Lord Cranbrook received, at the Education Department this week, a deputation of Nonconformists from Salisbury, demanding that the School Board should be ordered to provide a school instead of two British schools which had been closed. His lordship said that as the demand was being voluntarily supplied, the department must refuse to interfere.

Mr. Carrington, solicitor, Barnsley, who defended Dr. Burke, of Monk Bretton, who was sentenced to be hanged at the April Assizes, Leeds, in 1888, for shooting his daughter, has received an intimation that Burke will shortly be released from her Majesty's convict prison in the Isle of Wight. Burke, it is said, is in delicate health, both lungs being seriously affected.

Alfred Woodward, a green-proofer, of Teddington, was tried at the Middlesex Sessions on a charge of having received a quantity of pearls belonging to Mr. R. D. Blackmore, the jeweller, knowing them to be stolen. He was found guilty, but strongly recommended to mercy both by the jury and the prosecutor. Sentence of six weeks' hard labour was passed.

According to the Registrar-General's return, the deaths in London last week, 1,376 in number, were 68 below the average in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The death rate per thousand, which had increased in the four preceding weeks from 15.7 to 17.4, declined again last week to 16.5. There were only seventeen fatal cases of scarlet fever.

A Berlin correspondent hears that the Cesarewitch much admires Princess Maud of Wales, and that the parents on both sides are not at all averse to the union. According to rumour, it will not be long before the engagement is publicly announced. The Cesarewitch, who was born in May, 1868, is now 21 years, while Princess Maud attained her 20th year on Tuesday last.

At the Middlesex Sessions, John Johnson and Elizabeth Johnson, his wife, were charged with having neglected a child, aged five and a half years, in a manner likely to cause injury to his health. The jury acquitted the male prisoner, whose defence was that he gave his wife sufficient money to maintain the child properly, and convicted the woman, who was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

A meeting, which was of a very boisterous character throughout, took place at the Westminster Palace Hotel the other evening, to discuss questions relating to the muzzling of dogs. Mr. Candy, Q.C., moved a resolution directed against the muzzling orders; but an amendment in favour of continuing the regulations until the disease of rabies is eradicated from the country was carried.

At Manchester Assizes, Ernest Morton Rolfe, described as a journalist, was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude for having uttered a forged bill of exchange for payment of £21, which amounted to the defendant obtained at Blackpool from Mr. John Horning, on the representation that he was Mr. Herbert Burleigh, war correspondent, and he had supported this representation by letters purporting to have been written by Mr. George Augustus Sala.

The London County Council at its last meeting adopted important recommendations by the improvements Committee in regard to the cost of City improvements, one being that all future contributions towards the cost of improvements in the City should be on the same footing as contributions to improvements in other parts of the country. It was agreed that the estate at Highgate, presented to the council by Sir Sydney Waterlow, should be called Waterloo Park. After some discussion it was resolved that the serious accusations affecting Messrs. Brass and Sons, contractors, should be referred to a com-

mittee, to give the firm an opportunity of being heard in their own defence.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh arrived in London from Ostend on Wednesday.

At Cardiff the master of the steamer Ariel, of Hull, has been fined £100 for overloading.

Miss Mary Anderson, accompanied by her mother and sister, has gone to Nice.

It is proposed to establish a Pasteur exhibition in Madras.

Mr. Williamson, the well-known chief of Scotland Yard, is severely indisposed.

Three hundred sandwich men were entertained to tea in the Bloomsbury Hall the other night by Lady Brooke and a few of her friends.

Several Liverpool detectives, who were seen entering a notorious house where they were supplied with liquor, have been reduced to the ranks.

A receiving order was, in the London Bankruptcy Court this week, made against Ernest Benson, the "Jubilee Plumber."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is whipping up the Government offices with a view to a preparation of the estimates by January 15th.

The question of opening the Guildhall Library on Sundays is soon to be discussed by the City Corporation.

An experimental use of petroleum has been commenced on one of the steam ferries on the Thames.

A man named William Thorne has been fined £80 and costs at the Cardiff Police Court for selling beer on Sunday.

The Duke of Cambridge has consented to preside at the forthcoming festival dinner in aid of the funds of the Bethnal Green Free Library.

Mr. George Osborne Morgan, M.P., has been elected treasurer of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn for the ensuing year.

The number of paupers in London on the 14th November, exclusive of lunatics in asylums and vagrants, was 94,669, compared with 93,199 on the corresponding day of last year.

Special services will be held in the choir of Westminster Abbey on Sunday evenings during Advent. Entrance by the north transept and Poet's Corner.

The great activity in the shipbuilding industry is causing the accumulated funds of the Iron Shipbuilders' Operatives' Society to increase at the rate of £12,000 per quarter.

Mr. Archibald Forbes, who has been in moderately good health through the summer, has died at the approach of winter. He has sailed for the United States, and will winter in Florida.

At a meeting of the Manchester Tramways Company it was resolved to grant a fortnightly "day off" to the men, and to pay them for the "day off."

A Liverpool correspondent states that the Admiralty have given the contract for one of the four new ironclads to be built for the British Navy to Laird Bros., of Birkenhead. The vessel is to exceed 14,000 tons displacement.

The name of Mr. Charles Hall, Q.C., M.P. for the Western Division of Cambridgeshire, is now being canvassed as that of Sir James Hannen's successor as president of the Probate and Divorce Court.

Mr. William Paget, of Nevill-road, South Hornsey, was out walking with his wife, when he suddenly fell unwell. He went to the shop of Mr. Fryer, a chemist, Nevill-road, where he died in a few minutes.

Mr. Irving's son, who is now a student at Oxford, has undertaken to play the "Jew of Malta" by the Oxford University Dramatic Society next spring.

Among the passengers for New York by the Teutonic from Liverpool on Wednesday were Madame Patti-Niedlich, Signor Nicolini, and Madame Nordica, Mr. Orde Mills, and the Hon. J. E. Rooster.

The Eiffel Tower is to be closed on and after December 1st until the spring. This decision has been arrived at on account of the difficulty there would have been to approach the tower, especially in bad weather, during the removal of the Exhibition.

The Duchess of Portland held a reception on Wednesday at Welbeck Abbey, at which the Marchioness of Salisbury was presented with two specimens of Nottingham lace, one a scarf 49 in. wide, and the other a mantilla, both being made in the finest black silk Spanish imitation lace.

Mr. Raron Huddleston has tried an action for libel brought by Captain Nepean, deputy chief-inspector of lifeboats, against the *Observer*. The defendant apologised and withdrew the libel, and by consent a verdict for the plaintiff, with 40s. damages and costs, was entered.

A memorial of the novelist, Samuel Richardson, in the form of a brass tablet on the wall of St. Bride's Church, Fleet-street, opposite the spot where Richardson's remains were interred, was unveiled on Wednesday by the master of the Stationers' Company.

The barbet ship Camperdown had a trial of her heavy ordnance on Tuesday. The experiments were attended with a good deal of interest, as this ship is to supersede the Victoria as flagship in the Mediterranean. The trial was successful, with the exception of the bursting of the pressure pipe to one of the guns.

At Dublin on Tuesday, a jury awarded James Conolly, one of the injured in the Armagh railway disaster, £1,000 damages against the Great Northern Railway Company of Ireland. An action brought by Mr. Edwards, merchant, of Armagh, against the same company, was settled on the payment of £2,000.

Silverton has been honoured this week with a royal visitor in the person of Princess Henry of Battenberg, who opened a three days' bazaar at the Tate Institute in aid of a fund now being raised to defray a debt consequent on the improvement of St. Mark's parish church, Victoria Dock, E.

There have just been sent to India 30,000 trout eggs from the Marquis of Exeter's fish-breeding establishment at Stamford, Lincolnshire. These eggs are taken from fish of not less than 12 lb. each. On arrival the eggs will be taken to the Nijheri Hills, where they will be hatched out and placed in the streams.

Three men wearing masks attacked a Chinese wood-chopping camp, near Portland, Oregon, and attempted to rob the Chinamen. A fight ensued, in which one of the robbers was cut so badly that he died soon after. One of the Chinamen was shot several times, and it is thought that he is fatally wounded. Another robber was also badly chopped with a hatchet.

The litigation respecting the right of the Crown to carry on artillery practice on the Maplin Sands was again before the Court of Appeal on Wednesday upon a question as to costs. Counsel for the lords of the manor, who had succeeded against the Crown, mentioned that the costs between solicitor and client already amounted to £15,000. The Attorney-General intimated that the case was to be carried to the House of Lords.

Lieutenants Schroeder and Driggs, of the United States Navy, the former commanding the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius, who invented a rapid fire cannon which was recently experimented upon in America, have sold it to an English syndicate for \$600,000. It is made of strong steel, fires a shot three miles, and is of light weight. It is stated that it can be fired with three times the rapidity of an Armstrong gun.

Recently the Duke of Fife sold a farm to two of his tenants under highly interesting circumstances. Messrs. A. and G. Stanbury are the occupiers of a holding near Mac Duff, and they represent the oldest family on the estate. The same farm having descended in succession from father to son for over 300 years. It is now their freehold, bought from the duke, together with

the adjoining crofts, at the rate of twenty-six years' purchase.

Sir Tindal Robertson, M.P., died worth £15,502 in personalty.

Stanley's hair is now quite white. So Arabs report at Zanzibar.

There are in Scotland 50,454 enrolled Volunteers. Of these 49,332 are efficient.

There were ten infants under twelve months old suffocated—overlain—in the metropolis last week.

Fifty-seven victims of violence died in London last week. Fifty-four were, however, attributable to accident or negligence.

The Waterloo Exhibition, which Mr. Augustus Harris intends to open on an early day, will be under the patronage of the Duke of Wellington.

Laurie now employs much of his time in reading religious books, and pays marked attention to the ministrations of his spiritual advisers.

A widow named Bridget Colburne has been burned to death at her house in Flanagan-street, Birkenhead. It is believed that she set herself on fire while smoking in bed.

The Duke of Devonshire has contributed £200 to the fund now being raised by the Bishop of Southwell for augmenting poor livings in Derbyshire.

It is probable that the Empress Eugenie (who is about to pay a visit to the Queen at Windsor) will pass the winter at San Remo, instead of proceeding to Naples, as was her original intention.

Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., the Solicitor-General, will preside at a banquet to be given to Mr. J. L. Toole on February 12th, at the Hotel Metropole, prior to his Australian tour.

Lord Penance has directed a decree of citation to issue against the Rev. George Collins, vicar of Charlesworth, Derbyshire, on a charge of drunkenness.

"Some people despise their bodies," said Professor Blackie the other night. They are great fools. "As well might a workman despise his tools."

On the occasion of his visit to the seat of the Earl of Countess Howland, at Helton House, Lord Salisbury will address a public meeting at Grantham on Friday, the 17th of January.

In Kansas city, Missouri, a law exists which prohibits the keeping of billiard tables, cards, and dice boxes in the same room where intoxicating liquors are sold.

Elmer Labodee, of Franklin, Massachusetts—whom was accused of an assault on his daughter—deliberately ended his life whilst the magistrate was considering his case. He cut his throat.

Szegedin has an interesting spectacle. An ex-commissioner of police stands in the dock there charged with being the leader of a gang which stole a safe containing valuables worth 300,000 ft.

Lord Chief Justice Coleridge has promised to preside at the annual gathering of present and former students at the Stockwell Training College on the 5th of December, when an address will be given by Professor Henry Morley.

George Johnson, a Kingseat miner, was seen to leave a train at the Haltham Station. The next morning his mutilated body was found on the line. The poor fellow, who had evidently missed his way, had been cut to pieces.

Frank Zoludiek, a farm hand in Brown county, Kansas, will have to pay the penalty of his maniacal drunken fit. Whilst the worse for liquor he went and shot his mistress dead. There was absolutely no motive for the crime.

There is no truth in the report that Sir Frederick Abel is about to sever his connection with the Imperial Institute, or that any change is impending in the higher staff of the establishment.

At Liverpool Police Court, Albert and Kate Hauck, furriers, have each been fined 4s and costs, with the alternative of two months' imprisonment, for illegally pledging a quantity of furs, &c., the property of their customers.

The Wigan magistrates have sentenced Catherine Caranagh to three months' imprisonment for neglecting her four children, whom she took about the streets and into public-houses begging. The woman had had work found for her, but preferred drink.

William Kelly, a plasterer, of Douglas, Isle of Man, has killed his wife by cutting her throat. The couple had been drinking together, and came to high words. Kelly threatened to cut his wife's throat, and the woman is stated to have held back her head, and told him to "come on and do it now," upon which the man drew his penknife and cut her throat.

A curious epidemic is raging in St. Petersburg. Some authorities identify it with the dengue fever prevalent in Greece and Turkey. The Russian doctors call it influenza, the symptoms being fever and headache, accompanied by a running cold. The number of the sick at the present moment is variously estimated at from 50,000 to 150,000 persons.

An entire family, consisting of husband, wife, and child 10 years of age, have been suffocated in Berlin by an escape of gas from the house opposite to that in which they lived. The gas came up through the ground. The workmen of the gas company, having failed to find a leakage, which had been sent to stop, left the pipes open all night.

A new use has been found for the carrier pigeon in Russia, the bird carrying negatives taken in a balloon to the photographer. The *Norve Fremde* gives an account of some experiments to this effect recently made, in which the Czar's Winter Palace was photographed in the air, the plates being sent in paper bags impervious to light, tied to a pigeon's foot, and sent to the developer.

The other morning an office boy, named Alfred Greenfield, aged 13, residing with his parents at 5, Brompton-road, Ealing Hill, was leaving a tricycle which was in motion at the time in the Blackfriars-road, when he slipped, and, according to the evidence of an eye-witness, one of the wheels passed over his right leg. The injured lad was taken to St. Thomas's Hospital.

The celebrated collection of medieval implements of torture kept in the Castle of Nuremberg, which has hitherto constituted one of the most interesting sights of that historic town, has, it is reported, been purchased by a London company, who, after exhibiting it to the public, intend to send it to Berlin, it is said, to put it up to auction.

The Guion Line Royal Mail steamer Arizona, from New York, which has arrived at Queens-town, reports that at six o'clock on Tuesday morning a passenger named William Davenport, 40 years of age, and a native of Manchester, committed suicide by jumping overboard. He sank before any effort could be made to save him. Davenport leaves a wife and several children in Manchester.

Robert Kellino, a circus clown, was charged on remand at Warrington with the abduction of a girl, aged 16, the daughter of a well-known Warrington tradesman. The case had been adjourned from Monday to give Kellino an opportunity of marrying the girl. They were subsequently married at the Roman Catholic Church, and no evidence being offered against the prisoner, he was discharged.

Prince Albert Victor has gone to a place some sixty miles from Mysore to take part in an elephant hunt. A kheda, or entrenched enclosure, had been formed in the jungle near an elephant cover, and the prince was able to witness the driving of a great herd of elephants from the surrounding jungle into the narrow entrances of the enclosure. The captured elephants were tied in the presence of the prince.

At the Gloucestershire Assizes, James Williams, a boy, who had undergone two terms of penal servitude, was sentenced to penal servitude for fourteen years, by Mr. Justice Stephen, for breaking into the house of Alfred Cook, at Cheltenham, and wounding Mr. Cook's son. Prisoner complained that Cook struck him first, and the judge said he was quite justified in doing so, adding

that a man had a right to resist a burglar, even if the violence inflicted cost the burglar his life.

Labour disputes at Bristol are seriously threatening the trade of the port.

A meet of the Limerick County Hounds Club was held near Ballingarry, when on drawing the Frankfort cover it was found that poison had been laid, and that two hounds had taken it and died.

The trial of William Duke for the murder of George Gordon, at Bury, Lancashire, which was to have commenced at Manchester Assizes on Thursday, has been postponed for some days.

Mr. S. Smith, M.P., opened the new Lads' Home 101, Shaw-street, Liverpool, and remarked that Liverpool seemed to be the home of neglected and ragged children.

A sower of the 1st Bombay Lancers, stationed at Deesa, ran amuck and shot dead Colonel Arthur H. Heyland, commandant of the regiment, and two native officers.

The death is announced of Mr. Frederic Clay, the well-known composer, at Oxford House, Great Marlborough. Owing to paralysis, Mr. Clay had been unable for six years to pursue his work.

A reprint of Sir Henry James's speech before the special commission has been issued from the Times office. Although it fills 791 closely printed pages, it is sold for one penny—probably the most voluminous pennyworth ever published.

King Charles of Roumania, in opening Parliament, spoke of the existence of good relations with all foreign Powers, and the success which had attended the efforts for the preservation of peace. The Budget is favourable.

A special meeting of the Holland (Lincolnshire) Contagious Diseases Committee resolved to reimpose the restrictions against swine coming into the division from Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, and the Isle of Ely.

Miss Caroline Adamson, an actress in Miss Janet Steer's company, died suddenly at Bolton, early on Thursday morning. She played in "The Ironmaster" at the Bolton Theatre Royal on the previous night.

At a general meeting of the Institute of Painters in Oil Colours, Mr. J. H. Lorimer, A.R.S.A., Mr. W. H. Bartlett, Mr. T. Hope M'Leachan, Mr. A. Chevallier Taylor, and Mr. W. H. Pike were elected members.

Intelligence has been received from the Samur district in Daghestan of a pitched battle having been fought between a band of robbers and the inhabitants, in which four of the latter were killed and several others wounded.

The year's work of the St. Martin's School of Art is on view in the school-room, Castle-street, Long Acre. For a study in oil of a figure Frank Mann is awarded a national silver medal; and for another in chalk Miss Harriet Sutcliffe receives a bronze medal.

At a meeting held in the Temple it was resolved to form an Inn of Court Habitation of the Prisoners' League. Mr. H. C. Richards was elected the first ruling councillor. The object in view is to provide an efficient staff of voluntary speakers and workers.

Deplorable accounts of destitution reach Odessa from several districts in the Volga Provinces, where the crops have failed for four years in succession. The peasant holders are now selling most of their stock for food, and it is again stated that unless the Government comes to their aid quickly a famine is inevitable.

The Lowestoft smack Catherine has taken into that port the crew of the Grimsey smack Devon, which caught fire off Cromer on Monday morning. The flames spread so rapidly that the men had no chance of coping with them, and they had to take to a small boat to save their lives.

At a meeting held this week at Exeter Hall it was resolved to form a special metropolitan organisation to promote the closing of public houses on Sunday, and that the name of the organisation be "The Metropolitan League for Closing Public-houses on Sunday in London."

The Board of Trade have awarded silver medals for gallantry and humanity to Jean Pourcelet and Jean Chivrac, French Custom House officers at Bordeaux, who, at great risk to their lives, rescued a fireman belonging to the British steamship *Vesta*, who fell into the Garonne on the night of Oct. 26th last.

Wickham Court, the residence of Sir John Lennard, was broken into the other morning. A large quantity of clothing and other articles were stolen by the burglars, who, however, were not successful in obtaining any very valuable booty, the inner doors of the house being too securely fastened. They got clear away.

Messrs. Donald Currie and Co.'s royal mail steamer *Roslin Castle* arrived at Capetown at seven a.m. on Wednesday, her net steaming time being seventeen days nine hours, or four hours less than her last outward passage, which was then noted as the fastest on record from England to the Cape.

A singular accident happened at Tunbridge by which a young girl named Duval met with her death. It appears that the deceased was engaged cleaning some knives, when she fell with one in her hand, and by some means the blade penetrated below the eye and entered the brain, of course causing nearly instant death.

Shortly before noon on Thursday a fire broke out on the premises of Messrs. Davy and Sons, printers, 137, Long Acre. A strong body of police under Chief-inspector Wells, was quickly on the spot, and owing to the timely arrival of several fire-engines the fire was extinguished before any material damage was done to either premises or plant.

A largely attended meeting of the colliery proprietors of the country, held at the Westminster Palace Hotel, passed a resolution declaring that any further reduction in the hours of underground labour should be most strenuously resisted, on the ground that it would permanently and seriously increase the cost of working, and tend to produce an artificial scarcity of coal.

The naval fishery of Ceylon has had a most successful season. During twenty-two days 11,000,000 oysters were brought to the surface by fifty divers. This season the whole produce was sold at the rate of 2s. for 1,000 shells. The Government received £20,000 as their share, and the divers £3,400. The largest pearls are worth in Ceylon from £40 to £200, and in Europe they fetch three times the price or more.

The Hungarian Prince Esterhazy seems to be in considerable monetary difficulties. It is stated that the Hungarian Credit Foncier proposes to lend the prince 14,000,000 florins, on four per cent. mortgage bonds, to enable him to clear off at once the long-standing encumbrances on his estates. A special Act of Parliament may have to be passed, however, to remove certain difficulties which the Hungarian law of entail puts in the way of this operation.

In the Chancery Division, Mr. Justice Kekewich has made an order against the Regent's Canal, City, and Docks Railway Company for the specific performance of a contract entered into by the company to take from the vestry of St. Luke's for the sum of £38,000, a considerable quantity of land situate at Golden-lane, Hatfield-street, and Baltic-street. The order was made on the condition that the plaintiffs can show a good title to the land in question.

John Magee was charged at the Clerkenwell Police Court on Wednesday with having stabbed Frederick Coxford, in Halfmoon-crescent, Caledonian-road. The evidence went to show that the prisoner and the prosecutor fought on the evening of November 16th and that in the course of the conflict the prosecutor found he was stabbed. It was subsequently discovered that he had four punctured wounds in the abdomen and two in the chest. The prisoner was committed for trial.

The Lord Mayor, who was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, on Wednesday afternoon opened an industrial exhibition in the Holborn Town Hall, and in so doing drew to the importance of technical education, adding that his visit to the Paris Exhibition had shown him how greatly the French people had advanced in this particular. If they were to arm the people of this country to meet the competition of their continental neigh-

bours, they could give them no better weapon than technical education.

Dr. Liddon will preach in St. Paul's Cathedral on the Sunday afternoons of December.

Mr. Braslaugh, M.P., left Liverpool-street Station on Thursday, en route for Bombay, for the benefit of his health.

Miss Gertrude Kimball was a Brooklyn society belle. She had just ended her life at Woodhaven, Long Island, by shooting herself in the heart. The suicide is supposed to have been due to a love affair.

A Reuter's telegram from Bochum reports that a fatal explosion of fire-damp has occurred in the Konstantin der Grosse pit, in that district. Fourteen miners were killed and four others injured.

The result of the polling for the rectorship of St. Andrews University was declared on Thursday as follows:—Lord Dufferin, 103 votes; Lord Balfour of Burleigh, 100 votes. Lord Dufferin is, therefore, elected.

The horribly mutilated remains of a man were found on Thursday on the railway, near Four Oaks Park Station. The death is apparently a case of suicide, and the man is believed to be a well-known local blacksmith.

The Comte de Paris, who is on a visit to the Queen at Windsor Castle, drove to Baginboto on Thursday, where he was met by Prince Christian, the ranger of Windsor Great Park, for a day's pleasant shooting.

Mr. E. Brodie Hoare, M.P., speaking at a dinner of the Hampstead Constitutional Club, said that their political opponents were now dropping the Irish question, and trying to foist on the public crude and wild schemes which had failed in the past.

A lady named Watson, living in the Speedwell-road, Birmingham, cut her throat with a razor on Thursday, and died almost immediately. She had been a martyr to indigestion, and several doctors considered the case hopeless. In her despair she ended her life.

At Finedon Station, near Northampton, on the Midland Railway, on Wednesday evening, a railway porter named Arthur Gauden, aged 23 years, was knocked down by an up express, as he was crossing the line, and killed, his body being shockingly mutilated.

The Duchess d'Uzes, whose arrival in

DOUBLE MURDER AND SUICIDE AT DALSTON.

Shrubland Grove, Dalston, was on Wednesday night the scene of a shocking event. A mother murdered her two young daughters by dashing out their brains with a hammer, and then cut her own throat with a razor. Mr. George South, the husband of the unhappy woman, is a clerk in the employ of Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode. He and his wife, with whom he was upon most affectionate terms, resided at 78, Shrubland Grove with their two children, Ada, aged 14, and Edith, aged 12. There were also lodging in the house, Mr. Walter Holloway, a commercial traveller, and his wife. On Wednesday afternoon Mrs. Holloway went out for the remainder of the day, leaving Mrs. South and her children by themselves in the house. In the evening Mr. Holloway came home, and after opening the door with his latchkey, went to his own room, noticing nothing unusual about the house. A very few minutes later Mr. South also returned home, and was surprised to find no one in the front rooms. Proceeding to the back kitchen he discovered his two children lying lifeless upon the floor, their skulls literally beaten in by blows from a heavy hammer, which lay near covered with blood. In a chair was seated his wife, also with all appearance lifeless, and bleeding from a ghastly wound in the throat. On the floor near her was an open razor. Calling Mr. Holloway to come, South ran out of the house and across the street to the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. Lewis Hill. The latter at once sent for a doctor and for the police. Upon the arrival of the medical officer it was found that Mrs. South was still alive, although her recovery was hopeless, her throat being cut almost from ear to ear. She was at once conveyed to the German Hospital, where she lingered until ten minutes past ten, but without regaining consciousness. Both the children were fully dressed. The eldest girl, Ada, had on her nether and gloves, and it is presumed that she had just returned from a walk when the murder took place. The family were in comfortable circumstances, and no reason is assigned for the terrible deed. Mr. South, however, states that for the past week his wife complained of pains in her head, and was treated for these by Dr. Brewer.

Another Account.

According to another account, it appears that after she was found Mrs. South sat for some minutes on the chair apparently unconscious, but when the ambulance was nearly ready she jumped up, seemingly with much vitality, and made a determined attempt to tear open the wound in her throat. She was, however, seized by the police-sergeant and forced into the ambulance. At the German Hospital she was placed under the care of Dr. Ernest Michels, but from the first it was seen that the case was hopeless, and the wretched woman died at ten o'clock. Inspector Cockerell, who made a subsequent search of the house, found that the children had been most brutally murdered with a heavy claw hammer. It was lying close to the younger girl. Both the children had terrible wounds in the head, and it was apparent that great violence had been used, but, strange to say, not a sound was heard by any of the neighbours. Both were bright, happy, intelligent girls, and the elder was reputed to be the first scholar in the Wilton-road Board School, which both attended. Wednesday was a examination day, and the girls were determined to succeed. The ceremony, when they went home, being accompanied part of the way by another little girl named Nellie Osborn, who left them at Gayhurst-road. The two girls were not seen alive after that. The bodies of the children were removed to the German Hospital on Thursday morning, where they were placed in the mortuary by the side of their mother's remains.

Inquest and Verdict.

The inquest was held on Saturday, and a verdict of murder and suicide while temporary insane was returned.

ASSAULT AT A WEDDING. The Bridegroom Struck on the Nose.

An unexpected and disagreeable interruption took place on Wednesday at a wedding which was being celebrated at a Jewish synagogue in Liverpool. The ceremony had proceeded smoothly, and the happy couple had been formally united, and were receiving the congratulations of their numerous friends, when a young man was observed to be in a high state of excitement. Suddenly he rushed towards the bridegroom, who at first seemed to imagine that he was about to receive fresh congratulations, but was quickly undeceived when the intruder struck him violently on the nose. The attack was so unexpected that the bridegroom had not even time to raise his arm to guard himself. Amidst general consternation and hubbub the aggressor was given in charge of a police-constable. It is alleged that the man's extraordinary behaviour was caused by the bridegroom having previously paid attention to the assailant's sister. Another version of the story runs that the man who committed the assault had been himself in love with the bride. After the assault the bride and bridegroom proceeded to the carriage, when one of the springs of the vehicle broke and a total collapse ensued, to the consternation of the bystanders.

A TOWN IN FLAMES. 160 Families Homeless.

A conflagration, which broke out at Lynn, Massachusetts, a few days ago, raged furiously for nearly eight hours, it being half-past seven in the evening before it finally burnt itself out. The scene of the famous Chicago and Boston fires were re-enacted. Mothers were fleeing panic-stricken with their babies in their arms, and indescribable confusion prevailed, the military patrolling the streets and making vain efforts to preserve order. A square mile of buildings was destroyed, including four banks, several churches, four newspaper offices, and a number of club houses. The central station of the Boston and Maine Railway was also burned to the ground. The loss in the business sections, where twelve blocks of the largest shoe factories as well as numerous stores, have been laid in ruins, is estimated at 10,000,000 dollars. The principal dwelling-houses burned were those occupied by the poorer classes, who are now being sheltered in the remaining churches and school-houses. Some buildings were blown up by dynamite in order to keep the fire from spreading. The city fire brigade was assisted in its efforts by engines from Boston, Salem, Orono, and other places in the vicinity. Harrowing accounts are given of the misery caused by the catastrophe, and a hundred and fifty dwellings have been destroyed, and over a hundred shoe factories have been reduced to ashes, rendering 160 families homeless, and throwing 8,000 persons out of work. The mayor has made a special appeal for clothing to be sent immediately for the use of the many who have lost everything in the fire. He has also requested the governor to send six companies of militia into the town. An area of over sixty acres is in ruins, and the most flourishing part of the town has been destroyed, one of the largest and most valuable shoe factories having succumbed to the flames.

THE BURY MURDER.

A curious difficulty has arisen at Manchester Assizes with respect to the Bury murder case. The prisoner, William Dukes, was to have been tried on Thursday, and forty witnesses were in attendance, but Dukes himself a witness against Mitchell, an assistant-warder of Strangeways Prison, who comes up on remand before the magistrates on Tuesday charged with the manslaughter of a prisoner. As it would hardly do to put Dukes in the witness-box on Tuesday if he were under sentence of death, the question arose, "What shall be done?" Mr. Justice Charles would only say on Thursday that he would not take the Bury case that week. It remains to be seen whether or not Dukes' trial will be remitted to the Liverpool Assizes, and not dealt with there until the charge against the warder has been disposed of, he having already been committed to Liverpool on the coroner's warrant.

THE CHARGE AGAINST GAOL OFFICIALS. Heavy Sentences.

At the Northampton Assizes, John Howe, late governor of Northampton Gaol, and Thomas William Whitechurch, herbertist, were charged under eight indictments of attempting an illegal operation on the female prisoner. An application was made to a judge in chambers, who quashed the indictments relating to Cross with reference to the administration of drugs and illegal operation, saying he would, if necessary, state a case, and the Crown case in regard to alleged conspiracy was reserved. — Annie Woodward Furnace, a young single woman of prepossessing appearance, living with her father in Lamb-street, Coventry, said she went into Whitechurch's service two years and a half ago, and he shortly afterwards seduced her and subsequently deserted her. They met again in Coventry, and Whitechurch renewing the promise of marriage, witness went to him at Northampton. She deposed that the prisoner Cross first went to Whitechurch's shop in June last, and on her second and third visit saw Whitechurch in a private room. However, Whitechurch told witness that Miss Cross was pregnant, and that given him £21, a useful sum of money, for it was mostly spent in rates, taxes, and clothing. After that for nine mornings Miss Cross called regularly to take a decoction of gunpowder and other stuff, and after that Howe appeared on the scene, and an arrangement was made for Miss Cross to come into the house and reside there at a cost of a guinea a day. For a fortnight Miss Cross kept her bed, and was regularly dosed with pills and draughts, and at the end of that time Whitechurch suggested the use of wooden knitting-pin. Miss Cross was quite willing, and she said she would try any thing rather than have the exposure. The operation was attempted on three different occasions. After about a month of Whitechurch's treatment, during which Howe very frequently visited at the house once or twice a day, Miss Cross left, walking to the Midland Station at Northampton, and there taking a cab, drove to the gaol. She had already told witness that the people at the gaol thought she was in London staying with friends. Altogether Howe and Miss Cross paid Whitechurch £28 10s. Witness, at Whitechurch's dictation, sent a bill to Howe for £210, for "attendance, &c., &c." and Howe wrote back saying he was not aware he owed anything. — In cross-examination, the witness Furnace said she knew the part she played was wrong, but she had no idea of the danger she was running. Towards the end of July witness left Whitechurch because of his unkindness. She admitted that she told him she would have her revenge. — At the conclusion of the case on Thursday, the prisoners, being found guilty, Howe and Whitechurch were each sentenced to ten years' penal servitude, and Cross was sent to gaol for six months, with hard labour.

WINTER IN EARNEST.

The sudden change of weather on Tuesday last came upon every one as a surprise. In ordinary times one reckons upon cold in the last week of November; but the thermometer had kept so high, the air had been so soft, and the sun at times bright, that people had almost forgotten the time of year. On Monday very many people were going about without overcoats and shawls, and in the evening, when they went home, being accompanied part of the way by another little girl named Nellie Osborn, who left them at Gayhurst-road. The two girls were not seen alive after that. The bodies of the children were removed to the German Hospital on Thursday morning, where they were placed in the mortuary by the side of their mother's remains.

WHOLESALE HUSBAND POISONING. The assize court of Gross Becerek, in Hungary, is about to try one of the most appalling cases ever recorded in criminal annals. No fewer than eighty women of the Servo-Hungarian village of Melencze are accused of having poisoned their husbands and other near relatives. It is alleged that they procured the poison from two professional fortune-tellers, who drove a regular trade in noxious drugs. Attention was first called to their crimes in 1882 by a beautiful young woman, named Praga Kukin, who, having been married to her husband, was so overwhelmed with remorse that she gave herself up to the authorities. The two fortune-tellers were at once arrested, but they have since died in prison, and the difficulties of collecting evidence have caused the secret judicial examination of this horrible affair to last seven years.

MUCH ABOUT NOTHING.

William Herbert Edmunds, aged 36, a book-binder, Epsom-road, Epsom, was charged before Mr. Haden Corser, at the Dalston Police Court on Thursday, with disorderly conduct, and thereby causing a crowd to assemble outside St. Ann's-road Railway Station. — Constable Moran, 404 N, said that on the previous night at 10.50 he saw prisoner at St. Ann's-road Station, where he was said he had created a disturbance. Witness put him outside and told him to go away, repeating this six or seven times, but as the prisoner would not go away, he was taken to the police station. — Cross-examined by Prisoner: Didn't I say I was waiting for my train? — The Constable: You had no right to be at the railway station obstructing the passengers. — Prisoner: Didn't you unnecessarily push me, and then force your knuckles into my throat and twist up my arm? — The Constable: I employed the proper method of arrest, by the collar and cuff. — Prisoner: And when my wife asked you to use less violence, didn't you push her and her baby, and say, "Stand aside, you drunken woman." I told her she might get trodden on. — Prisoner: Didn't you yourself cause the crowd to assemble by roughly pushing me and causing my little girl to cry? — The Constable: You had before that caused an obstruction. — Prisoner: Was I drunk? — Mr. Haden Corser: You are not so charged. — Prisoner: And I contend I had a right to be where I was to wait for a car. — Henry Thompson, a porter in the employ of the Midland Railway Company, said he saw prisoner in the waiting-room of the station persisting in having a door closed which should be open. Witness tried to open the door, and the prisoner closed it three times. Then witness called the constable. — Prisoner: Didn't I ask you to allow the door to be half closed, so as to protect the women and children from the draught? — The Porter: Yes; and I told you it was my duty to keep it open. You had no right in the station. — Prisoner: I had, because I had travelled by train to that station, and was waiting for a car. — Prisoner called the inspector (Mr. Diddams) who took the charge, and this officer, while declining to say he was drunk, said he was excited, and admitted having been to a wedding and had a few glasses. — Prisoner: I was excited because of the indignity and unnecessary violence to which I had been subjected. — Inspector Diddams: You showed no marks of violence. — Mr. Haden Corser (to prisoner): This is a very great fuss about nothing. People think they have a right to manage the stations themselves. The porter had his duty to do, and part of that was to see that the station door was kept open. As I said, it is a great deal of fuss about nothing. You brought the trouble upon yourself, and now are discharged. — Prisoner: Can I have a summons against the constable for unnecessary violence? — Mr. Haden Corser: You can make your application at the proper time.

A LUNATIC ASYLUM DESTROYED BY FIRE. Eight Persons Burned to Death.

A dreadful occurrence is reported from Blackfoot, Idaho. A large lunatic asylum there caught fire, and although the most strenuous efforts were made to rescue the inmates, eight perished before they could be brought to a place of safety. The building was burned out, and the loss is estimated at \$200,000.

THE FRENCH "JACK THE RIPPER."

A Modern Legend. The trial of Dauga, the presumed "Jack the Ripper" of Pont à Mousson, began on Wednesday at the Naney Assizes. The story of this affair, which will probably rank among the causes célèbres of the last ten years, is as follows:—On December 18th, 1888, in the morning, a pawnbroker of Pont à Mousson, named Moses Sultzer, and his wife, were found lying murdered in the shop, both with their throats cut. All the money in the drawers had been carried away. On the 5th of February a Mademoiselle Ferry, a coal merchant, was murdered in the same way, and the drawers of the wardrobe were rifled. Three days later a woman named François, who kept a small wine shop, was found lying dead and mutilated in her shop. A struggle had evidently taken place, and the victim held a few hairs grasped in her hand. As usual, the furniture was forced open and several hundred francs had been taken away. Pont à Mousson was in a state of panic, and scores of persons were arrested and found to be innocent. At length, at the request of the local police, Jaume, the celebrated detective, was sent down from Paris, and he learned that a stranger had called upon several shopkeepers at late hours, and asked them if they were alone and other curious questions. This man was at length traced to Remiremont, and arrested just ten minutes after his arrival in that town. Dauga, it was then ascertained, had left Remiremont in July, 1888, having obtained employment at a printer's at Pont à Mousson. On the day after the murder of the Sultzer couple he sent his wife 200 francs, and on the day the woman François was murdered and he paid off his gambling debts. A coal-burner in his pocket was stained with blood, and a button like those on her dress. The hair she held was of the same colour as Dauga's. Finally, in his trunk was found a chipped and blood-stained razor. In 1881 Dauga was tried at Toulouse on the charge of having murdered and robbed an aged widow, but was acquitted for want of evidence. He was, in 1887, suspected of having murdered an aged married couple near Epinal, and in 1888 another married couple in the same district.

"JACK THE RIPPER" SCARE IN MADRID. A beggar who was talking with a little girl in the outskirts of Madrid was imagined by some persons to be "Jack the Ripper," and was arrested by the police and conveyed to the police station. A large crowd of women attempted to enter the building, and the police dispersed them with some difficulty.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD SCANDALS.

At a meeting of the London School Board, held at the offices, Victoria Embankment, the Rev. J. R. Diggle in the chair, Mr. Councillor Foster asked the chairman of the Works Committee (1) if he would make a full statement to the board in respect to the scandalous disclosures concerning Salter's Hill and Woodland-road Schools, the date of the contract, and the date of the certificate of completion in each case; (2) whether he had reason to believe that a similar state of things existed in other schools; and (3) whether he was prepared to recommend to the board steps for an immediate, thorough, and independent examination of all the buildings erected by the board. — Mr. Helby, in reply, said he had nothing to add to the statement he made last week, except that the date of the contract for the enlargement of Salter's Hill School was on March 11th, 1885, and the certificate of completion 28th of July, 1886. For Woodland-road School, the date of the contract was 11th September, 1885, and the certificate of completion November, 1887. From inquiries and investigations he had been making for nearly three years he was of opinion that in the building of a very large proportion of the schools of the board the specifications had been similarly departed from, and that the board had suffered loss from inferior materials, and had suffered loss from

Bad Workmanship.

He had already taken steps to ensure the examination of all the schools completed within the past four years, the period during which builders were liable for defects under this system. Defects discovered in the schools would be reported to the Works Committee, and would be dealt with as they arose. — Mrs. Besant wished to know whether all the bad work now exposed was under former board administration, or whether it was due to the action of the chairman of the committee; whether, with the aid of the present Works Committee, the whole department had been re-organized, and the recurrence of the scandals now exposed had been rendered impossible; whether Mr. Lobb had not been one of the most energetic supporters of the old system and opponents of the new? — Mr. Helby, in reply, said that neither the present board nor the board of 1885 to 1888 was responsible for the bad work recently discovered in the schools. As Mr. Besant would remember, he was elected chairman of the Works Committee on the 17th December, 1888, by sixteen votes to twelve given to a member nominated by Mr. Stanley. Since then, with the support of the majority of the members of the committee, the department had been placed upon the more satisfactory footing recommended by the special committee of the late board. The reforming effect of this could be seen in the improved manner in which the schools were now being built, and in the fact that, without the slightest fear of contradiction, that those now in course of erection were very

Creditable to the Board.

He was bound, however, to add that the permanent value of these reforms would depend upon the manner in which the committee supported the action that had from time to time been taken in insisting upon the due performance of the contract entered into with the board. On the appointment of their superior officers, Messrs. Perry and Bradfield, he gave them definite instructions to at once report to him as chairman of the Works Committee, all cases of apparent defects in the construction or drainage of schools. This had been done, and in all cases he had visited the schools, and directed a thorough examination to be made, with the result that in every case a state of things had been found to exist with which the board were now familiar. The board were indebted to the two officers he had mentioned for the loyalty with which these instructions had been carried out. It was placing him in a somewhat invidious position to ask him to express an opinion upon the action of any member of the board; but, as far as he knew, Mr. Lobb had supported all attempts to reform the work of the works department. Mr. Lobb was, however, as they all knew, in favour of the system of open contracts.

No fewer than 228 notices of private bills to be brought before Parliament next session have been given. Of these only thirty-six deal with matters connected with the metropolis, and five of them are for the construction of subway railways.

THE LABOUR AGITATION. The Tram and Omnibus Men's Union.

At an early hour on Saturday morning a meeting of the men in the employ of the tram and omnibus companies was held at the Liberal Club, St. Luke's-road, Clapham. About 300 men were present, and the chair was taken by Mr. Richard Stapley (Stapley and Smith), who was supported by Mr. T. Sutherland, Mr. Dr. East, L.C., Mr. T. Sutherland, Mr. Dr. East, L.C., and others. The chairman opened the proceedings in a brief speech, in which he referred to the long hours of omnibus and tramway employees, and the necessity of concerted action among the men in order to secure an amelioration of their position such as had been conceded to other workmen. — Mr. T. Sutherland proposed the first resolution, which was to the effect that the meeting strongly condemned the action of the London General Omnibus Company in refusing to receive a delegation of the union, thus showing the public that they were not in favour of shorter hours of their men. Mr. Sutherland said he was sorry the company had treated the representatives of a large and increasing union as they had done. The men were prepared to meet their directors in a conciliatory spirit, and he hoped the shareholders would learn that the directors had not responded to it. The men were, however, determined not to resort to any extreme measures; but would try conciliation again, and if that was not successful, they would have to resort to the extreme measure of laying the omnibuses in idleness. The hour was worked by the men of the London General Omnibus Company was as long, and in some instances, longer than the hours worked by the men of other companies, and one company had already adopted a policy by which its men only worked a little over twelve hours a day. (Applause.) Mr. Provand, M.P., seconded the resolution, and said he thought it advisable that a list of shareholders in the companies should be obtained, and the number of hours the men worked should be made known to them. Then they might pass resolutions calling on their directors to reduce the hours. — The resolution was carried. — Dr. Both proposed, and Mr. Collinson seconded, a resolution condemning the boycotting which had taken place by some of the companies, which was also carried. The men were strongly urged to join the union at once.

Government and the Unemployed.

Replying to a letter received from the secretary of the Metropolitan Labour Association, Mr. Ritchie, the President of the Local Government Board, says he is unable to agree that the starting of public works by the Government is a desirable means of attempting to meet the want of employment. With reference to the question of assisted emigration, the Government have appointed a committee of the House of Commons to inquire into the matter. They were unable to conclude their investigations last session, and no doubt it will be reappointed in the ensuing session. Mr. Ritchie is glad to think that the country has entered on a period of considerable prosperity, with the result that people are more fully employed than for a long time previously.

Settlement of the Wharves Dispute.

The following resolution has been adopted at a meeting of wharfingers and shipowners held at the offices of the General Steam Navigation Company, Great Tower-street:—Resolved: "That this meeting of wharfingers and shipowners, having heard Mr. Scrutton's report of his negotiations with Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Cuddeholle, regrets that the labourers appear determined to make demands for pay and conditions which are so much beyond what is reasonable. The meeting requests Mr. Scrutton to convey these views to those interested, and to state that, whilst conceding these demands, they do so with the strongest protest." In accordance with the terms of the above resolution, Mr. Scrutton, who has been acting for the wharfingers and wharfingers throughout the recent negotiations, has communicated the result thus arrived at to the representatives of the men, and as this is practically a concession of all they have been demanding, the difficulty may now be said to have terminated. In making this concession, the employers state that it has only been wrung from them by extreme pressure at a period when opposition and resistance on their part are rendered unusually difficult.

LOST IN THE SNOW.

American despatches just to hand state that the bodies of John Martin and Henry Miller, the cowboys who were frozen to death near Santa Grande, New Mexico, in the terrible blizzard, have been taken to Folsom for burial. Four other men belonging to the same party are missing, and it is feared that they are dead. It is reported by men who know that at least twenty men are missing from this range, and it is feared many of them will never be found. Jolly and Wise, the men who escaped badly frozen, tell a heartrending story of their sufferings. When the blizzard struck them they had closed their 2,500 cattle. The wind became a hurricane before the morning, and when Martin and Jolly went out the last guard, about three a.m., the storm was so blinding that they could not hold the herd. Jolly started to the camp for help. In the meantime, Miller and Wise had left the camp to assist in holding the cattle. Jolly could not find the camp, and Miller and Wise could not find the herd. All three were drawn together by shouting, and wandered around till daylight, when they entered a ravine. The cold was so bitter that the men entered a ravine, and after fastening their horses, took the saddle blankets and buried themselves in a snow drift. It was only by the greatest efforts that Jolly and Wise succeeded in keeping awake. They were slightly apart from Martin and Miller, and had difficulty in talking to each other. The snow piled upon them to such weight that they were forced to seek another drift. About four o'clock in the morning Miller called Jolly and Wise, and told them they had all better go, and that they crawled out they made a search in the drift for Miller and Wise. They took the horses and started, leading them. Soon the horses were on Miller's knees, his horse standing in front of him as though trying to protect him from the cold. He was asked to get up and go with them, but he was unable to rise, and was assisted to get assistance, while Wise remained with their dying companion. Both of Wise's hands were frozen, and he was helpless and was fast becoming insensible himself when a Mexican sheep herder found him and took him to Rhodes's ranch, a few miles distant. The man returned where Miller had been left and found him lifeless.

A SOLICITOR CHARGED WITH MURDER.

Henry Frederick Watts, described as a solicitor, of Southampton and London, was committed for trial on Thursday by the Southampton coroner for the wilful murder of Charles Mason, a shoemaker. Watts occupied part of Mason's room for offices, and had borrowed money from him. He was at the office late on the night of November 8th, and a few minutes after midnight a fire broke out, and Mason, who had only one leg, was suffocated. — Watts was brought up before the Southampton magistrates on Friday. No evidence was taken, and the prisoner was remanded until Monday.

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR ATTACKED BY AN ELEPHANT.

A Reuter's telegram from Mysore reports that on Tuesday, while Prince Albert Victor was watching the process of taming the elephants which had been driven into the kheda the previous day, one of the animals got loose, and charged full at his royal highness, who was standing near. For a moment there was great excitement and anxiety, but Colonel Sanderson gallantly interposed, and averted an accident, giving the prince time to take refuge in the grand stand which had been erected for the purpose of enabling him to witness the driving and taming of the elephants.

THE STRAND IMPROVEMENTS.

At a meeting of the Strand Board of Works the following resolution was proposed by Mr. H. Andrews, seconded by Mr. T. H. Cole, and carried unanimously: "The Strand District Board, having for twenty years contributed to the expenses of improvements in all parts of the metropolis, it is not just or reasonable that this board should be asked to specially bear any cost of the widening of the Strand at Holywell-street, an improvement necessary not only in the interest of the metropolis but of the country beyond the limits which is borne by the metropolis at large in the manner provided by the Acts now regulating the improvements of a metropolitan character. That until the provisions of the Land Clauses Act are altered by Parliament in the interest of the whole country, it is inexpedient and unjust that any alterations should be made applicable to the Strand District only. That it be referred to the Parliamentary Committee to report on the matter, and what steps should be taken in Parliament or otherwise to oppose the bill of the London County Council in reference to the Holywell-street improvements."

AN ILL-ASSORTED COUPLE.

At the Southwark Police Court on Thursday Edward Moore, 59, of Stanworth-street, Bermondsey, was charged, on remand, with attempting to commit suicide on November 20th, by severing an artery in his left arm with a chisel. — A son of the prisoner discovered his father lying in bed in a pool of blood, with a severe cut in his arm, from which blood was flowing profusely. — In answer to the charge, the accused said he was the father of a large family, and after being a widower for a number of years he married again. For the past few weeks he had been unable to get any work, and every night he went home his wife quarrelled with him, and he could not stand it any longer. — William Moore, the son of the prisoner, said his step-mother was much younger than his father, and no doubt that had something to do with the trouble. When he went home and told her that his father was so much troubled, she said it was a pity he did not finish himself with a chisel. He had now arranged for his father to come and live with him. All his children had grown up, and he thought he could make him comfortable. — Mr. Kennedy said: "I hope you will, and I think it is very good of you. Don't let your father have anything to do with his wife."

THE CONDITION OF LONDON BAKERY HOUSES.

The first of a series of reports by the special sanitary commissioner of the Local on the subject of bakeries and bread-making appears this week in that journal. The results of an inspection of the bakeries on the south side of the Thames were very far from satisfactory. In one underground bakery in Lambeth were found in the same level, a waste of the floor, a dirt, and a broken dust-box or bin. Dust and effluvia could therefore mix with the bread, particularly as the great heat of the bakery would draw the air in from the closet and the dust-bin. Several other bakeries appeared badly ventilated, and had a fusty smell. Nevertheless, it would seem that the low-class quarters of London do not appear to possess the worst bakeries, for certainly the most insanitary bakeries as yet visited was in the West-end.

A CITY LIBEL CASE.

In the Queen's Bench on Thursday, before Mr. Justice Cave and a special jury, the hearing of the case of Salomons v. Knight was continued. The plaintiff, Mr. Leopold Salomons, carrying on business in the City, sued Mr. Joseph Knight, formerly proprietor of the City Hotel, in Ironmonger-lane, for libel contained in a document sent by the defendant to the plaintiff's solicitors, and reflecting on the plaintiff, with reference to the carrying out of a contract whereby the plaintiff was to become possessor of the defendant's interest in the hotel premises. The defendant pleaded justification and counter-claimed damages, alleging fraud in the contract. — The plaintiff in the witness-box positively denied that there was any ground whatever for the libel, or for the allegations of fraud in the contract. Having cross-examined the plaintiff at great length, the defendant addressed the jury, and in the witness-box gave evidence. He complained of being unable to obtain possession of certain original documents which were necessary to prove his case, and possession of which by the other side was denied on oath. — The Solicitor-General at the close of the defendant's case, repeated that the plaintiff's object in bringing the action was not to obtain money in damages from the defendant, but to put a stop to the defendant's imputations; and even now, if Mr. Knight would undertake to abstain from those imputations in the future, he (the Solicitor-General) would undertake that there would be the most nominal damages that could be given. — Mr. Justice Cave asked the defendant if he accepted that offer. — Mr. Knight said he did not, saying he repeated nothing but what was true. The judge said he saw no evidence to support the charges against the plaintiff either as to fraud, or perjury, or collusion, or otherwise. — After a short deliberation, and without leaving the box, the jury gave the plaintiff a verdict for £1,000 on his claim, and a verdict on the counter-claim. — Judgment accordingly, with costs.

MONEY MARKET.

Curr. Saturday. Business on the Stock Exchange continues quiet. The Funds are unchanged. Foreign Government Securities favourably inclined. American Railways somewhat better in tone. Canadian Lines rather weak. Mining Shares met with moderate attention. Latest quotations:—Consols, 97½; ditto account, 97½; Two-and-a-Half per Cent., 94½.

FOREIGN STOCKS. Argentine, 1886, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1890, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1892, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1894, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1896, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1898, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1900, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1902, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1904, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1906, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1908, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1910, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1912, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1914, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1916, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1918, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1920, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1922, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1924, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1926, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1928, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1930, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1932, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1934, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1936, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1938, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1940, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1942, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1944, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1946, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1948, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1950, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1952, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1954, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1956, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1958, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1960, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1962, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1964, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1966, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1968, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1970, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1972, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1974, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1976, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1978, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1980, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1982, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1984, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1986, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1988, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1990, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1992, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1994, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1996, 90, 1/2. Ditto 1998, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2000, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2002, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2004, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2006, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2008, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2010, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2012, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2014, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2016, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2018, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2020, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2022, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2024, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2026, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2028, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2030, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2032, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2034, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2036, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2038, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2040, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2042, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2044, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2046, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2048, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2050, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2052, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2054, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2056, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2058, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2060, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2062, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2064, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2066, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2068, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2070, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2072, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2074, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2076, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2078, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2080, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2082, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2084, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2086, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2088, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2090, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2092, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2094, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2096, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2098, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2100, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2102, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2104, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2106, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2108, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2110, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2112, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2114, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2116, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2118, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2120, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2122, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2124, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2126, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2128, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2130, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2132, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2134, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2136, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2138, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2140, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2142, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2144, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2146, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2148, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2150, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2152, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2154, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2156, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2158, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2160, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2162, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2164, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2166, 90, 1/2. Ditto 2168, 90, 1/2